BIOGRAPHICAL HISTORY

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THE

BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

OF

LIVINGSTON AND WOODFORD COUNTIES,

ILLINOIS.

ILLUSTRATED.

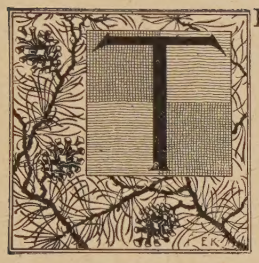
"A people that take no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered with pride by remote generations."—MACAULEY.

SEATTLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 75388
SEATTLE, WA 98125-0388

CHICAGO:
THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING COMPANY,
1900.

FROM THE PRESS OF WILSON, HUMPHREYS & CO.,
FOURTH ST., LOGANSPORT, IND.

PREFACE.



HE greatest of English historians, MACAULAY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the present century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea, the BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought this county to a rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued the "even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them, as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"They have done what they could." It tells how many, in the pride and strength of young manhood, left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

Coming generations will appreciate this volume and preserve it as a sacred treasure, from the fact that it contains so much that would never find its way into public records, and which would otherwise be inaccessible. Great care has been taken in the compilation of the work, and every opportunity possible given to those represented to insure correctness in what has been written; and the publishers flatter themselves that they give to their readers a work with few errors of consequence. In addition to biographical sketches, portraits of a number of representative citizens are given.

The faces of some, and biographical sketches of many, will be missed in this volume. For this the publishers are not to blame. Not having a proper conception of the work, some refused to give the information necessary to compile a sketch, while others were indifferent. Occasionally some member of the family would oppose the enterprise, and on account of such opposition the support of the interested one would be withheld. In a few instances men never could be found, though repeated calls were made at their residence or place of business.

October, 1900. THE S. J. CLARKE PUBLISHING CO.

"Biography is the only true history."—Emerson.

GEORGE W. PATTON.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

HON. GEORGE W. PATTON. At the present time it is seldom that one wins prominence in several lines. It is the tendency of the age to devote one's entire energies to a special line, continually working upward and concentrating his efforts toward accomplishing a desired end; yet in the case of Judge Patton it is demonstrated that an exalted position may be reached in more than one line of action. He is an eminent jurist, an able judge and a leader in political circles. For several years he was successfully engaged in the practice of law in Pontiac, and is now serving as judge of the eleventh judicial circuit.

The Judge is a native of Pennsylvania, and during his infancy was brought to Woodford county, Illinois, in 1851, by his parents, Samuel R. and Jane (Haines) Patton, who were also natives of the Keystone state. His paternal grandfather was Rev. James Patton, and his great-grandfather, Rev. John Patton, both of whom achieved some local celebrity as Baptist ministers in western Pennsylvania, the latter having been pastor of the church at Smithfield, Fayette county, for thirty consecutive years, as the inscription on his monument, erected by his church, still attests. Judge Patton's maternal grandparents were John and Margaret (Anderson) Haines, farming people of western Pennsylvania. The latter was a daughter of James Anderson, a native of Ireland, who carried a musket for six years in General Washington's army during the Revolutionary war. During their entire residence in this state the parents of Judge Patton made their home in Woodford county, where the mother died in 1873, the father in 1886. He was a Democrat in politics, a successful farmer, a man of great industry, indomitable will and strong common sense, while the mother was a woman of keen wit, remarkable memory and forceful intellect.

Reared on the home farm in Woodford county, Judge Patton attended the common schools of the neighborhood until twenty years of age, and then took a three years' course at Normal, Illinois, completing the same in 1871. During the following two years he taught school in Secor and El Paso, Woodford county, and with the money thus earned he commenced the study of law with Hay, Green & Littler at Springfield, Illinois,

and was admitted to the bar in 1875, being a member of the same class as W. J. Calhoun, ex-Senator T. C. Kerrick and George Torrance. Subsequently he again taught school and engaged in other pursuits until 1881, following farming for three years to regain his health. In 1881 he commenced the practice of law at Fairbury, this county, and two years later located in Pontiac, where he formed a partnership with C. C. Strawn, which was dissolved in 1888. After that time he was alone and succeeded in building up a large and lucrative practice. On the 7th of June, 1897, he was elected one of the judges of the eleventh judicial circuit, composed of Livingston, Woodford, Ford, McLean and Logan counties, and is now most creditably filling that office. His mind is analytical, logical and inductive. With a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the fundamental principles of law, he combines a familiarity with statutory law and a sober, clear judgment, which makes him not only a formidable adversary in legal combat, but has given him the distinction of being one of the ablest jurists in this section of the state.

Although reared in a Democratic atmosphere, Judge Patton has never voted that ticket, but is a stanch Republican. He was a member of the state central committee of his party from 1894 to 1896. He was made a Mason at Fairbury, and is now a member of Pontiac lodge, No. 294, F. & A.M.; Fairbury chapter, R. A. M.; Chenoa council, R. & S. M.; and St. Paul commandery, K. T., of Fairbury. He also belongs to the Odd Fellows lodge and encampment, and both he and his wife are members of the Pontiac Methodist Episcopal church, in which he is serving as an officer. The Judge was married, September 20, 1877, to Miss Flo Cook, daughter of James and Lucinda Cook, of Fairbury, and they now have two children, Marie and Proctor.

HAMILTON R. STEWART.

Hamilton R. Stewart, who for the last fifteen years has successfully operated the farm of B. M. Stoddard on section 8, Avoca township, Livingston county, was born in county Derry, Ireland, June 4, 1854, and is the oldest child of William and Mary A. (McLaughlin) Stewart, also natives of county Derry, where the father successfully engaged in farming from early manhood until his death in 1868. Subsequently his widow came to America with her family of five sons and one daughter, namely: Hamilton R., the subject of this sketch; Joseph, a farmer, who died in Iowa; Samuel, a resident of Avoca township; William, a laborer of Ogden, Iowa; John, deceased; and Hannah, wife of William Scott, who lives near Rochelle, Ogle county, Illinois. On their emigration to America the family located in Lexington, Illinois, where they made their home for four years, and in 1872 moved to La Salle county, where the following two years were passed, coming to Livingston county at the end of that time. While in Lexington the mother married Thomas Clinton, by whom she had one son, Thomas F., now a school teacher in Swygart, Illinois. Her second husband died in Livingston county and she is now living with our subject at the age of sixty-seven years.

Hamilton R. Stewart commenced his education in the common schools of his native land, and after coming to America, at the age of fourteen years, attended school in

Lexington, Illinois, for a short time. Being the oldest of the family he had to go to work on a farm that he might aid in their support, and lived at home until twenty-two. While in La Salle county he worked in a coal mine in Streator for two years. In 1876 he left home and was employed as a farm hand about five years, at the end of which time he rented land and embarked in farming on his own account.

In 1883 Mr. Stewart married Miss Jane Blair, who was born in Tazewell county, this state, in 1862. Her parents, William and Mary (Gillian) Blair, both natives of Ireland, located in Tazewell county on their emigration to the United States, and after residing there for a few years moved to McLean county, where they now make their home. The father is a successful farmer. In the family were seven children, namely: Thomas, a farmer of McLean county; Jane, wife of our subject; David, a prosperous farmer of McLean county; Annie, wife of H. Gillian, of the same county; William, also a resident of McLean county; and Lydia and Addie, both at home. Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, one died in infancy. The others are as follows: William J. and Mabel M., who passed the central school examinations at the ages of fifteen and thirteen years respectively, being the youngest who ever passed from their school, and standing high in rank in a class of forty; Minnie P., Litta G., Ira J., Hamilton G., Geneveive and Morris M. The parents are giving their children the best possible educational advantages.

After his marriage Mr. Stewart located on a farm in McLean county, where he successfully engaged in general farming for two years, and in 1885 moved to the farm of two hundred acres in Avoca township, Livingston county, where he now resides. He is a conscientious man, upright and honorable in all his dealings, as is shown by his remaining on one farm so long. During his residence here he has been prominently identified with local politics. He was justice of the peace five years, school trustee six years and assessor two years, being re-elected for a third term, and serving in each office to the best of his ability and for the interests of the people he represents. He is a man who does not draw party lines in local affairs, but supports those whom he believes best qualified to fill the positions, regardless of party affiliations. For the past twelve years in national elections he has supported the nominees of the Prohibition party and at present is township committeeman of that party. Socially he is a member of Fairbury Camp, No. 6, M. W. A., and religiously is a member and active worker in the Methodist Episcopal church and Sunday school, serving as a member of the board of trustees for the past fourteen years. He is a genial gentleman, who is well liked by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

FREDERICK DUCKETT.

Success is determined by one's ability to recognize opportunity, and to pursue this with a resolute and unflagging energy. It results from continued labor and the man who thus accomplishes his purpose usually becomes an important factor in the business circles of the community with which he is connected and also prominent in public life. Through such means Mr. Duckett has attained a leading place among the representative men of Livingston county, which he is now serving as county clerk.

A son of Benjamin and Jane (Redmond) Duckett, he was born November 10, 1840, in Wedmore, Somersetshire, England, which place has been the ancestral home of the family for many generations. There the father engaged in farming until his death, which occurred when our subject was a boy of five or six years. The mother was left with six children, five sons and one daughter. She spent her entire life in her native land and died in the faith of the Episcopal church. Those of the family who came to America were Francis, now a resident of Des Moines, Iowa; Daniel, a physician, who died in Forrest, this county, in 1890; Sarah, wife of Jesse Arney, of Kent, Washington; and Frederick, our subject. The youngest son, Gabriel, is a resident of Australia.

Frederick Duckett received a good practical education in the schools of his native land. In 1854, at the age of thirteen years, he came alone to the United States and spent two years in New York state, where he found employment. In 1856 he came to Illinois and first located in Henry, Marshall county, working on a farm near there until fall, when he went to Peoria county and obtained a position, where he worked for his board with the privilege of attending school. He remained in that county until the Civil war broke out and in the spring of 1862 enlisted in Company K, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry. Going immediately to the front, he joined his regiment at Memphis, Tennessee, and was first under fire at Lexington, that state. He took part in the second battle of Corinth and the siege of Vicksburg, and remained in active service until mustered out September 30, 1865, being never off duty a single day. He was serving as second lieutenant at the time of his discharge. Returning to Peoria county he remained there until 1867, when he removed to Forrest, Livingston county, and entered in the drug business with his brother. Later he became sole proprietor of the store, and though he began in a small way he carried a large and well-selected stock and had built up an excellent trade at the time of disposing of his business.

On the 19th of February, 1866, Mr. Duckett married Miss Mary E. Munhall, of Peoria county, a daughter of Samuel Munhall, and to them have been born six children: Jeanette, now the wife of H. C. Amsbury, of Wellsville New York; Arthur F., who married Grace Stillwell and resides in Forrest; Jesse, now serving as deputy county clerk under his father; Nellie M.; Mabel M., wife of Everett Tate, of Pontiac; and Aldine, at home.

Mr. Duckett attends and supports the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is a member. He is a very active and prominent member of several civic societies, was one of the organizers of Forrest Post, G. A. R., and served as its first commander. He has represented it in the state encampment several times and was a member of the commander's staff one year. He was a charter member of Forrest lodge, No. 614, F. & A. M., of which he was master about ten years, and is now a member of Pontiac lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., of which he has been secretary, while at present he is high priest of Pontiac chapter, R. A. M., and past commander of St. Paul Commandery, K. T., of Fairbury. He also belongs to Chenoa Council, R. & S. M., of Forrest lodge, K. P., of which he is past chancellor, and the Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is past venerable consul.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Duckett has been an active Republican. He served as collector of his township several terms

and was a member of the township board at different times. In 1894 he was elected county clerk by a good majority and after filling that office for four years was renominated by acclamation in 1898 and elected by an increasing majority, which speaks well for the estimation in which he is held by the people of the county, who recognize his ability and fitness for the office. His present term will not expire until December, 1902. As a citizen he has always been found true to every trust reposed in him, so that his loyalty is above question, being manifest in days of peace as well as when he followed the old flag to victory on southern battle fields. Since he entered upon the duties of his present office he has made his home in Pontiac.

JAMES P. DAHL.

James P. Dahl, who is successfully engaged in farming on section 3, Eppards Point township, Livingston county, Illinois, two miles from Pontiac, is a native of Denmark, born on the Baltic Sea March 24, 1839, and is a son of Lars P. and Christina (Peterson) Dahl, who spent their entire lives as farming people in that country.

Our subject was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools of his native land. His knowledge of the English language has been acquired through his own unaided efforts. It was in 1860 that he crossed the broad Atlantic, sailing from Liverpool, England, to New York, and landing in the latter city on the 25th of May, that year. He came direct to La Salle county, Illinois, where he had friends living, and where he worked on a farm by the month for some time. Later he was similarly employed in Putnam county for five years, and from there went to Peru, Illinois, where he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, John Dixon, and engaged in fruit growing and the milk and dairy business for nine years, selling out on coming to this county.

On the 10th of April, 1877, in Peru, Mr. Dahl married Miss Lydia Jensen, a native of Copenhagen, Denmark, and a daughter of Paul and Louisa (Otto) Jensen, who were also born in that country. The father was a business man of Copenhagen. Mrs. Dahl was well educated in the schools of that city and came to the new world in 1875. To our subject and his wife have been born six children, of whom four are living, namely: Anna is a well educated young lady, who is now successfully engaged in teaching music and also serves as organist of the McDowell Methodist Episcopal church; William assists his father in the operation of the farm; and Joseph and Clinton are also at home. Carrie died at the age of ten years; Mary, at the age of six months.

The day after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dahl came to Livingston county and he purchased eighty-four acres of land on section 3, Eppards Point township, where he now resides, and has since bought forty acres more, making a fine farm of one hundred and twenty-four acres, which he has tiled and placed under a high state of cultivation. He has remodeled the house, planted an orchard, erected outbuildings and made many other useful and valuable improvements on the place which add greatly to its attractive appearance. He is quite successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Originally he was a Republican in politics, but is now a Prohibitionist, and at local elections votes for the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices,

regardless of party affiliations. He is now an efficient member of the school board and president of his district. Religiously Mr. Dahl and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of McDowell and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

JAMES H. GAFF.

James H. Gaff, a prominent old resident of Pontiac, Illinois, who is now serving as justice of the peace and deputy sheriff of Livingston county, was born in Xenia, Greene county, Ohio, March 23, 1827, a son of David M. and Hannah (Mock) Gaff. His paternal grandparents were John and Martha (Scott) Gaff, natives of Pennsylvania and Maryland respectively, the birth place of the former being not far from Gettysburg and Hagerstown. They were of Scotch-Irish descent and members of the old Covenanter church. The maternal grandparents were John and Mary (Horney), natives of North Carolina. In 1801 they removed from that state to Xenia, Ohio, in a one-horse wagon, resting always on the Sabbath day during the journey. Mr. Mock helped build the first house ever erected in Xenia and owned one hundred acres of heavily timbered land about five miles south of where that city now stands. This he cleared and transformed into a good farm. Leaving his family and several children at home, he enlisted in the war of 1812, and was stationed at McPherson's block house on the line between Indiana and Ohio. He and his wife spent their last days upon a farm which he improved in Fayette county, Ohio. She was of Quaker descent and was a daughter of James Horney, who had charge of the train of seventeen wagons in which the Mock family moved to Ohio from North Carolina. They became members of the Methodist Episcopal church and old Peter Cartwright preached in their house.

David M. Gaff, the father of our subject, was born in Maryland near the Pennsylvania line, and was a young man when the family moved to Xenia, Ohio, where he married Hannah Mock, a native of Ohio. He followed farming, but died at the early age of twenty-seven years, being accidentally killed March 27, 1831, when our subject was only four years old, leaving his widow with three small children to support. This she did by engaging in weaving. Later she married John Calhoun and moved to Montgomery county, Ohio, locating six miles south of Dayton, where the family lived until about 1857, when they came to Illinois and settled near Decatur, Macon county. Mr. Calhoun died in Decatur in 1866 and his wife died near Bloomington, this state, in 1892, at the age of eighty-five years. At an early day John Gaff, our subject's paternal grandfather, who was also a soldier of the war of 1812, floated down the Ohio river on a flat boat to Cincinnati, and from there drove across the country to Xenia, where in the midst of the forest he commenced to develop a farm, which was to have been inherited by our subject's father had he not been killed so early in life.

Just before he attained his eighth year James H. Gaff, our subject, went to live with an uncle, with whom he remained for four years, and then made his home with his grandfather Mock. Until eighteen years old he attended school not to exceed thirty days a year, his first books being an elementary speller and testament, which were later sup-

plemented by the American reader and Smith's arithmetic. The school house where he pursued his studies was a primitive structure built of logs, with puncheon floor and seats and greased paper windows, and the little room often had to accommodate forty pupils.

After leaving school at the age of eighteen years Mr. Gaff learned the blacksmith's trade in Jeffersonville, serving a three-years apprenticeship, and then working as a journeyman at that place for a time. While there he was married, December 23, 1850, to Miss Catherine Powell, a native of Fayette county, Ohio, and a daughter of Harper Powell, a farmer. They have one child, Ann E., now the wife of Charles Tanquary, of Chicago, by whom she has a daughter, Helen G.

On leaving Jeffersonville, Ohio, in the fall of 1851, Mr. Gaff moved to what is now Cooksville, McLean county, Illinois, where he bought eighty acres of land and commenced breaking prairie with an ox team. In 1854 he moved to Pleasant Hill and opened a blacksmith shop, which he conducted for five years and then sold. Coming to Pontiac he was here engaged in general blacksmithing until after the Civil war broke out.

In the fall of 1862 Mr. Gaff enlisted in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry and first went to Louisville, Kentucky. He was at the engagements at Bowling Green, Gallatin and Nashville and later started on the Chattanooga and Atlanta campaign, his regiment being one of the first to enter Atlanta after the evacuation. They were on the left wing of the army in the march to the sea and up through the Carolinas to Goldsboro and Raleigh. The war having ended they continued their march through Richmond to Washington, D. C., where they participated in the grand review. They were mustered out at Washington June 8, 1865, and discharged at Chicago on the 21st of that month. Mr. Gaff had four half-brothers and one step-brother in the service, not one of whom was ill or wounded while in the army, although their aggregate service amounted to over nineteen years.

Returning to his home in Pontiac, Mr. Gaff resumed blacksmithing, at which he worked until the fall of 1866, when he was elected sheriff of the county for a term of two years, and the following two years served as deputy sheriff, having charge of the office for his successor. After clerking in a store for one year he again opened a blacksmith shop and built up an extensive business, furnishing employment to four men. During President Hayes' administration he was appointed postmaster, having always been an active Republican and chairman of the central committee during the Hayes campaign. He had previously filled the office of assessor for a number of terms. While serving as postmaster the postage on a letter was reduced from three to two cents, which naturally affected the revenue of the office. He was reappointed by President Arthur and for eight years devoted his time exclusively to the duties of his position. Later he spent a year and a half in Kansas, returning to Pontiac in 1890. He has served as constable four years, justice of the peace three years and deputy sheriff since 1891, having charge of the circuit court. His official duties have always been discharged in a prompt and able manner, which has won the commendation of all concerned.

Mr. Gaff is one of the oldest members of T. Tyle Dickey Post, No. 105, G. A. R., and has served as its commander. He

is one of the oldest Masons belonging to Pontiac lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., and is a member of Fairbury Chapter, R. A. M. For forty years he and his wife have held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church and during that entire time he has served as steward or in other official positions. He has also been class leader for some time and takes an active and prominent part in church work. During the long years of his residence in Livingston county he has been one of its most influential and popular citizens—a man honored and respected wherever known.

GEORGE TORRANCE.

Whatever else may be said of the legal fraternity, it cannot be denied that members of the bar have been more important actors in public affairs than any other class of the American people. This is but the natural result of causes which are manifest and require no explanation. The ability and training which qualify one to practice law also qualify him in many respects for duties which lie outside the strict path of his profession and which touch the general interests of society. The subject of this record is a man who has brought his keen discrimination and thorough wisdom to bear not alone in professional paths, but also for the benefit of his fellow citizens and the community in which he lives. He is now most efficiently and satisfactorily serving as superintendent of the Illinois state reformatory at Pontiac.

Mr. Torrance was born in Lancaster, Ohio, May 15, 1847, a son of David and Sarah (Kerns) Torrance, both natives of Pennsylvania, and the former of Scotch-Irish and the latter of German descent. The parents removed from their native state to Lancaster, Ohio, and in 1863 came to Illinois, locating in Danville, Vermilion county, where for some time the father engaged in business as a contractor and builder, being a carpenter by trade. He died in that city. While a resident of Ohio he took quite an interest in educational affairs, and always attended and supported the Presbyterian church, though not a member. His wife still survives him and continues to make her home in Pontiac.

During his boyhood George Torrance attended the common schools of his birthplace. He removed with the family to Danville, Illinois, and there enlisted, in 1864, in Company E, One Hundred and Forty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was with his command in Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama. He remained in the service until the close of the war, being mustered out at Dalton, Georgia, and discharged at Camp Butler, Illinois. At the age of twenty years Mr. Torrance began his business career as clerk in a grocery store, and was later in the United States express office and a clothing store of Danville. He came to Chatsworth, this county, as a dry-goods clerk, and held that position for some time, after which he was employed as a commercial traveler. He served as justice of the peace and read law with the firm of Fosdick & Wallace, the latter being now Judge Wallace, of Pontiac. Later he studied for a time with A. M. Wyman, and was admitted to practice by examination January 9, 1875. He was engaged in practice at Chatsworth until the spring of 1881, when he came to Pontiac. Here he began practice alone, but later was in partnership with R. S. McIll-

GEORGE TORRANCE.

duf, as a member of the firm of McIllduf & Torrance, and when that was dissolved he was alone for some years. Subsequently he was engaged in practice with his son under the firm name of Torrance & Torrance. He would never accept criminal cases, but as a civil lawyer met with most excellent success in his chosen profession.

On the 9th of June, 1869, Mr. Torrance was united in marriage with Miss Eliza M. Fenn, of Chatsworth, a daughter of Elam P. Fenn, a farmer, from Connecticut, and to them have been born two children: Herbert E., now an attorney of Pontiac; and Grace Tren. The family attend the Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Torrance is a member.

As a Republican Mr. Torrance has taken an active and influential part in political affairs, and has been chairman of the county committee. In the fall of 1880 he was elected to the state senate and served two terms of four years each with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. During this time he was one of the one hundred and three who helped to elect General Logan to the United States senate.

Mr. Torrence was appointed superintendent of the Illinois State Reformatory, March 1, 1897. Realizing that if it was to properly perform the work designed for it many changes must be made in its buildings, schools, etc., he immediately began his labors along that line. This institution, with the great outlay of money necessary to its building, and the wants of fifteen hundred inmates to look after, including their schooling and discipline, would be a tax upon the strength of any man, but with this additional work has been a heavy burden, which he has borne with wonderful fortitude. Though critised and condemned at times, he has never faltered, but patiently awaited the time which he felt sure must come when his work would meet with public approval. It has now arrived and the discipline of the inmates, the success of its trade and common school work, and the beauty of the grounds are generally commended and the institution is recognized as among the most successful of its kind in the world. Mr. Torrance has been told that he expected to leave the institution as a monument to his work in this state, and if given time would place it in such a position that it could not be surpassed by any other in the near future. That he has succeeded is now conceded and his former critics are loud in his praise, and the doubting yet hopeful friends jubilant over his success.

The discipline is excellent, yet without apparent severity. There seems to be a hopeful, contented air permeating the whole institution, and he has not elsewhere and probably never will have better friends than can be found among the boys in his custody. They speak kindly of him, are very respectful to him and obey his requests or commands as cheerfully as if he was paying them salaries. One by one the former modes of punishment have been abolished until the shackle, hand-cuff, ball line, solitary, etc., are relegated to the things that were. Parade and assembly grounds have been arranged, fine lawns, cement walks and flower beds constructed, until the inner yard is a beautiful park, the admiration of all that see it. Great attention has been paid by him to the training of inmates in both instrumental and vocal music until the institution has one of the best bands in the state. A military organization has been perfected, and it is unsurpassed anywhere, outside of

West Point. To instruct the inmates he has about twenty-two common and twenty-five trade schools, classes in ethics, Sunday school, chapel services, lectures, concerts and entertainments of various kinds.

With him the work is not performed for the salary alone; it has become a work into which he throws his entire energy and ability. A visit to the institution is very instructive and interesting, and hundreds inspect it every week, as many as fifteen hundred being conducted through it in one week last summer. In the handling of hundreds of thousands of dollars, the making and looking after many contracts with builders, machinists and plumbers, not one word of scandal has ever been heard, not a difference ever existed but has been adjusted without discord. The same is true in regard to his officers; differences often exist, but under his direction they are harmonized or he takes hold with a firm hand and settles them beyond further controversy. One employe said: "I have worked at other institutions and found much trouble among the officers always existing. This one runs without friction." As an organizer and director, he is unsurpassed. He possesses executive ability of a high order, has had great experience in public matters, is an excellent lawyer, an extensive reader and possesses a brain that works rapidly. Probably no man in the state is required to promptly pass upon so many matters embracing all the lines of industry and education as he is, or that could do so with less deliberation.

For nearly six years Mr. Torrance has been officially connected with the high school of Pontiac, and was president of the board almost five years, during which time the school was opened and raised to its present high standing among similar institutions in the state. Other official honors would have been conferred upon him had he not declined, refusing to allow his name to go farther on the party ticket. Upright, reliable and honorable, his strict adherence to principle commands the respect of all, and as a pleasant, affable gentleman he makes many friends.

JOHN K. OLESON.

John K. Oleson, who resides on section 8, Pontiac township, is one of the successful farmers of Livingston county. He is a native of Norway and was born June 20, 1831, just sixty-nine years from the day the notes for this sketch were taken. He grew to manhood on a farm in his native country and until about thirteen years old attended the parochial schools. He then had to begin making his own living and engaged in farm labor.

The life of a poor man in Norway is not one for envy, and the opportunity for advancement is not such as is afforded in the United States. Realizing this fact, Mr. Oleson determined to emigrate to this country, and accordingly, in 1858, he took passage in a sailing vessel, crossed the Atlantic, and landed in Quebec. From that city he came west to Chicago, and from there to La Salle county, Illinois, where he commenced work on a farm by the month, and continued to be thus employed for several years, saving as much of his wages as possible.

While yet living in La Salle county, Mr. Oleson was united in marriage with Miss Elsie Olson, by which union two children were born. Ole R., the eldest is now married and has one son. He is enaged in farm-

ing in Livingston county. Emma is the wife of Ole Knudson and they have four sons.

In 1870 Mr. Oleson came to Livingston county and purchased a farm of eighty acres and also rented a place on which was an old log house. The place had formerly been worked, but when he obtained possession it had mostly grown up to grass and weeds and only about fifteen acres was fenced. Life in Livingston county was commenced under very discouraging circumstances, but he had grit and determination, and the unsightly weeds soon disappeared and the land was placed under cultivation. A small house was first erected, which in due time, gave place to a larger and better one, and the area of the farm was increased until the farm now comprises two hundred and twenty acres, all of which is under cultivation and the land tilled and well drained throughout.

Politically Mr. Oleson is a Republican, with which party he has been identified since coming to this country. On his arrival the slavery question was being agitated and the country was almost in the midst of the throes of a revolution. Lincoln and Douglas were holding their great debate, and the young Norwegian naturally took his place on the side of those who were fighting for freedom. His first presidential vote was cast in 1864 for Abraham Lincoln, while his last was cast for William McKinley. He was reared in the Lutheran faith and is yet a member of that church. His wife is also a member of the same church.

Mr. Oleson was a poor man when he came to the United States, and for several years he had a hard struggle to obtain a foothold, but he persevered, with the result that he now has one of the best improved farms in Pontiac township, within three miles of the county seat, and he can calmly look the future in the face, knowing that he has sufficient to carry him through old age in comfort, if not in luxury. His forty-two years in this country have served to broaden his views and to make him progressive and thoroughly American in all things. All who know him have for him the utmost respect.

JOEL ALLEN, M. D.

Joel Allen, M. D., a prominent and successful physician of Pontiac, Illinois, is a native of this state, born on his father's farm in Jefferson county. November 13, 1827, and is a son of Abel and Prudence (Wilkey) Allen, naties of Kentucky and Georgia, respectively. His paternal grandfather, James Allen was born in Virginia, and when quite young moved to Kentucky, where he engaged in farming for some years, coming to Illinois about 1819, locating in Jefferson county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying about 1830. The Doctor's father, who was a prosperous farmer, lived in his native state until about thirty-five years of age, when he came to Illinois and settled in Jefferson county, where he continued to follow his chosen occupation until his death, which occurred at his home March 29, 1869, at the age of seventy-four years. His wife survived him about six years and died on the old homestead in Jefferson county, June 3, 1875. For a quarter of a century she was a great invalid and for the last ten years of her life was also entirely helpless, requiring much care and attention. The Doctor has one brother in this county, Christopher Columbus Allen, a farmer of Pontiac township.

Dr. Allen obtained his early education in the district schools of Jefferson county,

and assisted his father with the farm work until twenty-two years of age. He had a great fondness for the study of medicine and for some time read with his uncle, Dr. Carter Wilkey, with a view of fitting himself for the medical profession.

On the 14th of November, 1849, Dr. Allen was united in marriage with Miss Martha Trowbridge, a daughter of Philo and Martha Trowbridge of Jefferson county, where her father was successfully engaged in farming until his death, about 1855. By this union were four children, all of whom are living, namely: Hardin A., born in Jefferson county, wedded Mary Kinnehan, of Livingston county, and is now a pavement and concrete walk contractor of Streator, Illinois; Lydia A. is the wife of A. C. Scott, a prominent farmer of Eppard's Point township, Livingston county; Laura is the wife of T. C. Taylor, a dealer in hardware and agricultural implements of Pendleton Oregon; and J. Brown married Lizzie Labourn and is a street car conductor of Denver, Colorado.

After his marriage Dr. Allen continued farming for some years in Jefferson county and then went to Lincoln, Logan county, where he was engaged in the manufacture of brick until the death of his wife, which occurred January 15, 1858. He then came to Livingston county and again took up farming, at the same time continuing his medical studies, being thus employed until the outbreak of the Civil war. He was again married, December 6, 1860, his second union being with Emily Tromly, by whom he had two children: Gertrude, born in La Salle county, August 23, 1861, resides at home, and Jessie P., born in this county, July 17, 1866, is the wife of Robert Harms, a farmer of Rock Island, Illinois.

In August, 1862, Dr. Allen enlisted at Minonk, Woodford county, in Company H, Seventy-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as hospital steward and remained in the service three years, having charge of his regiment as physician and surgeon the last two years. He was serving as second assistant surgeon at the time he was mustered out with his regiment at Mobile, July 25, 1865. They participated in sixteen battles, the first being at Chickasaw Bluff, in the rear of Vicksburg, and for forty days was in the siege of Vicksburg. The following winter was passed in New Orleans and in the spring the command took Fort Gaines on Mobile Bay, also Spanish Fort and Fort Blakeley.

After the close of the war Dr. Allen returned to Livingston county. While in New Orleans he took a course of medical lectures and on his return, as a representative of the Eclectic School of Medicine, he commenced practice in this county, and was not long in securing a liberal patronage. In the fall of 1882 he moved to Graymont, where he engaged in practice and also conducted a drug store until coming to Pontiac, in October, 1888. He has his office at his handsome residence, No. 307 East North street, and although well advanced in years continues to engage in active practice.

For his third wife Dr. Allen married Mrs. Mary Hallam, of Livingston county, a daughter of James Carson, a farmer of this county, now deceased. She died in Pontiac, December 5, 1888, leaving no children. On the 12th of November, 1889, in Pontiac, the Doctor married Mrs. Addie E. Pound, oldest daughter of John S. and Eunice (Packer) Lee. The father, a native of Connecticut, and a blacksmith by trade, came to Illinois in 1857 and settled at Pleasant Ridge, near Lexington, where he fol-

lowed his trade for two years, and then came to Pontiac. He now makes his home with the Doctor and his wife, Mrs. Lee having died at her home in Pontiac in 1896. They had three children besides Mrs. Allen, namely: Hattie, wife of Joseph Roggy, a farmer of Nebraska; Frank P., who is employed in a pork packing establishment in Chicago, and Charles, agent on the Illinois Central Railroad at Riverdale, Illinois.

Mrs. Allen was born in Connecticut, December 24, 1850, and was seven years of age when she came to this state with her parents. She is a lady of refinement, highly educated, and after the death of her first husband she was, for a number of years, successfully engaged in teaching in the district schools of this county, and for a period of eight years in the public schools of Pontiac. Her first husband was Joseph Pound, a farmer living near McDowell, Livingston county, by whom she had two children, Mary and Alfred, both now deceased. The Doctor and Mrs. Allen have one child, Wayne Lee, who was born in Pontiac, May 10, 1892. In his political views Dr. Allen is a Republican, but has never sought or desired public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his professional duties. He is a member of the Methodist church of Pontiac, and is honored and respected by all who know him. Mrs. Allen is also a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

REV. E. F. WRIGHT.

Rev. E. F. Wright, who for six years has been the beloved pastor of the Congregational church at Dwight, Illinois, was born July 21, 1842, in Shoreham, Vermont, adjoining Whiting, where Senator Sawyer was born. His paternal grandfather was Andrew Wright, a native of Connecticut, and a soldier of the Revolutionary war, who after that struggle migrated to Shoreham, Vermont, and took up a large tract of land. He was married twice and reared a large family. The youngest of his children by the second marriage was Samuel Wright, our subject's father, who in early life followed the sea, sailing first on a whaling vessel and later on a merchantman. After giving up the sea he made his home in Vermont for some time, but spent the last three years of his life in Jackson county, Michigan, where he died when our subject was only four years old. He was twice married, but his first wife died young, leaving no children. His second wife was Minerva Knowlton, a native of New York state, by whom he had three children, namely: E. F., our subject; Florence, wife of C. W. Platt, of North Adams, Massachusetts; and Charles T., a resident of Crow Point, New York. The mother survived her husband many years, dying in Rutland, Vermont.

Our subject was reared by his father's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Robison, and his early education was acquired in the district schools of Vermont, which he attended during the winter months. He was eighteen years of age when the civil war broke out and was one of the first from his state to enlist, joining Company K, Second Vermont Volunteer Infantry, May 17, 1861. He was mustered into the United States service at Burlington, and in June went to the front, participating in his first battle—that of Bull Run—on the nineteenth anniversary of his birth, July 21, 1861. His regiment was in the Peninsular campaign, the siege of Yorktown, the battles of Lee's

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Mills and Williamstown, and the seven days' battle in front of Richmond. He was ill and off duty from August, 1862, until January, 1863, and after rejoining his command took part in the battle of Chancellorsville. The regiment gained distinction the following day by making a famous charge on St. Mary's Height, and later participated in the battle of the Wilderness, where they lost three hundred and thirty-six men. The brigade of which Mr. Wright was a member probably lost more than any other in the service. He was mustered out June 29, 1864, and returned home.

Previous to leaving the army Mr. Wright was converted, and soon after his return home entered the academy at Barry, Vermont, where he spent two years. The following year he was a student at Newbury, Vermont, and in the summer of 1866 entered Middlebury College, from which he was graduated in 1870, with the degree of A. B., receiving the degree of A. M. three years later. In the autumn of 1870 he commenced teaching in the academy, where he remained two years, and in 1872 was called to the pastorate of the Congregational church at Danby, Vermont, where he was ordained and installed in 1873.

On the 11th of November, 1871, Mr. Wright married Mrs. Ellen M. Marsh, of Norwich, Vermont, who died July 4, 1874, leaving one son, Robert Hopkins, who is now married and in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad at Dubuque, Iowa. After the death of his wife, Mr. Wright entered the Chicago Theological Seminary, from which he was graduated in 1876. While attending that institution he had served as pastor of the Congregational church at Des Plaines, Illinois, and later was in charge of the church at Seward, Winnebago county, eight years; Rockton three years, and Crystal Lake, Illinois, for a time. From the last named place he came to Dwight, where he has now been for the past six years, during which time he has built up the church and has ministered faithfully to the spiritual needs of his people. He is not only well liked by his own congregation, but is honored and esteemed by all who have witnessed his devotion to his noble calling.

Mr. Wright was again married, September 7, 1876, his second union being with Miss M. S. Stone, of Pecatonica, Winnebago county, Illinois, by whom he has two children, namely: Florence, who is now bookkeeper and stenographer for the Dwight Star and Herald; and Clarence. Both reside at home.

ARCHIE CRABB.

The early home of this well-known and honored citizen of Pike township was on the other side of the Atlantic, and on coming to the new world he was in limited circumstances, but so successful has he been in his business undertakings that he is now able to lay aside all labor and live a retired life upon his farm on section 4, Pike township, Livingston county, about eight miles from Chenoa.

Mr. Crabb was born in Arbroath, Forfarshire, Scotland, June 18, 1833, a son of James and Cecelia (Monroe) Crabb, also natives of that county, where the mother died. The father, who followed the sea in early life, came to the United States after the death of his wife and spent his last years with a daughter in Illinois. During his boyhood and youth our subject had limited

school advantages, and is mostly self-educated. In 1854 he took passage on a sail vessel bound for Montreal, Canada, and was seven weeks in crossing the Atlantic, during which time the ship encountered some severe storms. On their arrival in Quebec they were quarantined for two weeks, there being some twenty cases of smallpox on board. Mr. Crabb spent about six months in the city of Montreal, where he worked at his trade, that of a blacksmith.

In 1854 he came to Illinois, and first located in Tazewell county, where he worked for his uncle, William Monroe, as a farm hand, for about two years and a half, at ten dollars per month. He next engaged in farming for himself upon rented land in the same county, where he continued to make his home until 1866, and in the meantime purchased eighty acres of land in Pike township, Livingston county, where he now resides. He located here in 1866, and commenced immediately to break the virgin soil, upon which he built a small house. Later he purchased an adjoining eighty-acre tract, and still later another eighty-acre tract, and today has a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings, which stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. After years of faithful toil he can now well afford to lay aside all business cares and enjoy a well earned rest.

In Tazewell county, December 25, 1861, Mr. Crabb married Miss Mary Ann Dorward, who was born and reared in the same neighborhood in Scotland as her husband and came to the new world in 1853, locating in Illinois. To them have been born six children, namely: Florence, now the wife of William Snethen, of Pike township; John Henry, who is married and engaged in farming in the same township; Robert, also an agriculturist of Pike township; Margaret, wife of Lewis Brinkman, of Rooks Creek township; Cecelia, wife of Louis Salzman, of the same township; and Agnes, wife of C. B. Rollins, who operates the Crabb farm.

Mr. Crabb voted for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, but since 1868 has been independent in politics, giving his suport to the men and measures that he believes will best advance the interests of the public regardless of party lines. He has taken quite an active part in local politics, and is now serving his sixth term as supervisor, and is now a member of the committees on public buildings, county house and farm, fees and salaries. He has also served as township clerk, assessor and treasurer, which office of treasurer he now holds, and as township trustee eighteen years. He and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian church, and his public and private life are alike above reproach, for his career has ever been one characterized by the utmost fidelity to duty. He and his family receive and merit the high regard of the entire community.

THE LESLIE E. KEELEY CO.

Time tests the merit of all things, and the years with unerring accuracy set their stamp of approval upon all that comes before the public notice, or cause to sink into oblivion that which is not worthy of attention. Only truth is eternal, while "error wounded, writhes in pain and dies among her worshippers." There is no escape from such results; the ages have proven this, and the law will hold good throughout all time.

In the face of the most bitter opposition there was given to the world a wonderful discovery by Dr. Leslie E. Keeley, of Dwight, Illinois. He early met the ridicule and persecution of the medical fraternity, of which he was a member, and the amused and oftentimes abusive disbelief of the world, but time proved the efficacy and value of his discovery, and today he is known as one of the greatest benefactors that America produced in the nineteenth century.

Although the founder has passed away his living record in terms of splendid love will never efface, and the work he created is continued under the corporate name of The Leslie E. Keeley Company, the leading members being Major Curtis J. Judd and John R. Oughton, the latter the present mayor of Dwight, while the former for several years was a successful merchant and filled positions in the executive departments of the village. The history of the Keeley Institute forms the most important chapter in the history of Dwight, for prior to its establishment the little village was scarcely heard of outside of a radius of a few miles, and seemed to have little business or commercial prosperity outside of the farming industry before it. Today no city of equal size in the Union is as widely known.

In 1880 Dr. Leslie E. Keeley was graduated from Rush Medical College, of Chicago, and in seeking a location, determined upon this little village in Livingston county, Illinois. He soon won an enviable reputation, and enjoyed a large practice which came to him from miles around; but while he successfully performed his daily duties as a general practitioner, he became interested in the question of a possible cure for inebriety. He gave careful thought, study and investigation to the matter, prompted by a love of scientific research, but more than all by the great humanitarian principles which ever formed a basic element in the character of Dr. Keeley. At length he became convinced that drunkenness was a disease just as surely as a fever or any other disease which comes under the care of the physician. He became convinced that there was nothing in the claim that heredity had anything to do with either. He believed that while a neurosis might be entailed upon descendants, they were not from necessity liquor or drug users. He defined drunkenness as "a condition wherein the nerve cells have become so accustomed to performing their duties and functions under the influence of alcohol that they are dependent on it and will no longer perform those duties and functions properly and painlessly except when under its influence." This theory has long been accepted by physicians throughout the country, and is taught in the leading text-books on physiology and hygiene in our public schools, but at the time Dr. Keeley advanced it he met with the greatest opposition from the medical fraternity. Hoping to perfect a cure for this condition of the nerve cells, he wrote to several well-known physicians to ascertain what they knew about the effects of salts of gold. A few responded and their information was meager, but Dr. Keeley continued to investigate and experiment, and as a result, perfected not only the cure but the system of treatment. The storm of abuse and opposition which he brought down upon himself can hardly be imagined. The president of a prominent medical college, with whom he took counsel, advised him thus: "Maintain the secret of your discovery if you think it of use to humanity, but the profession will not leave a shred of your medical

reputation." This was painfully true, but he fought his and humanity's battle nobly, until now thousands have been benefited by his treatment, the number reaching more than three hundred thousand.

It was in 1880 that Dr. Keeley abandoned general practice and began giving his entire attention to the cure of those who had become slaves to alcohol, opium and other very injurious drugs. He early associated with him Major Judd and Mr. Oughton, and the connection was maintained until the Doctor's death. These gentleman were prominent, popular and reliable business men of Dwight, and their faith in Dr. Keeley and his discoveries did much to gain for him the confidence of his home community. Major Judd is now the secretary and treasurer of the company, and Mr. Oughton is president and chemist. Soon after the partnership was formed Mr. Oughton was given the formulae and being an expert chemist has compounded the Keeley remedies to the present time.

With three such men as Dr. Keeley, Major Judd and Mr. Oughton at the head of the Institute its success was assured, although it was almost a decade before it gained the recognition and assistance of the press. Gradually public opposition was lessened, as those who came to the Institute under the curse of inebriety went away sober, intelligent citizens, ready to take their places again in the work of the world. Their testimony and influence lead to the growth of the work, the number of patients gradually yet constantly increased, and it is estimated that twenty-five thousand took the treatment prior to 1891, when Joseph Medill became its champion and advocated the cause through the columns of the Chicago Tribune. Before so doing, however, he thoroughly investigated the cure. In an editorial in the Chicago Tribune he said: "I tested this cure; I selected a half-dozen of the toughest products of alcoholism that the Chicago saloons had been able to turn out, and the drunkard-making shops in no other city can beat them in their line of workmanship. The experimental cases were sent down to Dwight, one at a time, extending over a period of several weeks, and in due time they were all returned to me, looking as if a veritable miracle had been wrought upon them. The change for the better was so great that I scarcely recognized them. They went away sots and returned gentlemen. It was amazing, and converted me to a belief in the efficacy of the 'Gold Cure' for alcoholism and opium. Well, I did not stop with the half-dozen specially selected cases, but sent down to Dwight a number of inebriate acquaintances to take the treatment, as I was anxious to reclaim those old friends who had been respected and useful citizens before the 'drink habit' had ruined their lives. When I had thus become fully convinced that drunkenness was a disease, the result of imbibing poison, and that a medicine had been discovered which released the victim from the irrepressible thirst for alcohol, and that it restored the man to normal health of body and mind, I felt it to be a duty which I owed to humanity to make known the virtue of the Keeley Cure as fast and as far as in my power, and I rejoice that the control of a widely-read journal enabled me to reach the minds of a multitude of intelligent people. I opened the columns of my paper freely to the rescued victims of alcohol, who related their experience and testified to what the Keeley Cure had done for them." The Tribune's example was immediately followed by that of other leading

journals in Chicago, and then throughout the country, until the Keeley Institute of Dwight became largely known throughout the length and breadth of the lan

It was soon found that the accommodations at Dwight were totally inadequate, so greatly did the number of patients increase. Dr. Keeley, Major Judd and Mr. Oughton held consultation and it was determined that the congestion at Dwight should be relieved at once by the openiing of branch institutes. The first one was established at Des Moines, Iowa, soon others were started in New York and Pennsylvania, and after this branches sprang up in various places until at the present time there are one or more in nearly every state and territory. The most notable work perhaps was accomplished at the Leavenworth branch of the National Soldiers' Home, where nearly fifteen hundred veterans of the war of the Rebellion were treated with the most gratifying results, and the report of the board of managers to congress and the secretary of war spoke of the great good accomplished. The treatment was also administered in the Soldiers' Home at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Hampton, Virginia, Los Angeles, California, and others, with excellent results. Many men and officers of the regular army have also taken the treatment, sixty Indians from the Cherokee and Osage reservations were sent to the branch in Kansas City, and the results were so favorable to the cure as to prompt the writing of a letter by Chief Justice Connor, of the Indian Territory, to Dr. Keeley, praising the treatment in the highest terms. Sixty-five men in the work-house of Minneapolis were sent by the mayor of that city to the branch institute there, and a large majority of them, although they had been victims of inebriety, convicted from two to twenty-nine times, were enabled to leave the work-house, and were changed from wards of the state to self-supporting, self-respecting citizens. To cite, either collectively or individually, the wonderful cures effected by the system inaugurated by Dr. Keeley would fill a large volume; suffice it to say that more than three hundred thousand have taken the cure, and the greater number have remained sober, useful citizens.

The cure for drunkenness is usually effected in four weeks. There is no sickness attendant upon the treatment, and the physical condition improves from the start. Men are also freed from the opium, morphine, laudanum, cocaine and chloral habits. The patients are left absolutely free, there being no restraining influences other than those of law-abiding citizenship. All patients are treated alike and stand on the same footing. It is interesting to note the many exhibitions of kindness and good will of the patients towards each other. A useful lesson is taught by this democracy of the Keeley Institute—a man of humble station is lifted up and given a new trend, whereas a man of high position is convinced more than ever of the leveling qualities of drink toward the lowest strata of society.

The Livingston Hotel of Dwight is owned and conducted by the Leslie E. Keeley Company, and is an excellently conducted hostelry, with pleasantly arranged rooms, well lighted and ventilated, and tastefully furnished. The laboratory is one of the finest and best equipped in the country, and the offices are models of convenience.

Dwight certainly owes her prosperity in very large measure to the Leslie E. Keeley Company. Prior to the establishment of the institute it was an ordinary country town, without electric lights, without water-

works and without drainage. Today it has all the accommodations and improvements of cities many times its size, this result being largely obtained through the efforts of the members of the Keeley Company. It is safe to say that no private institution in the entire country is so well known as the institute at Dwight, nor is there one whose influence and efforts have been so beneficial and far reaching.

The business of the Leslie E. Keeley Company is conducted upon a liberal principle and most approved business methods. The system is the result of years of experience and intelligent work, and cannot be improved upon. Visitors to Dwight invariably inspect the general offices as one of the sights of the village. While it has been a paying investment to its owners, it certainly deserves to be ranked among the greatest institutions for good that the nineteenth century has known.

MATTHIAS TOMBAUGH.

Matthias Tombaugh, deceased, was one of the most prominent of the early educators of this county, and served as county superintendent of schools for several years, during which time there was a marked improvement made in the educational system then in vogue here. He was born near Washington, Washington county, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1835, and there grew to manhood. His parents were Mathias and Rachel (Spohn) Tombaugh, life-long residents of that county and of German descent. The mother survived her husband several years, dying about 1890.

Our subject completed his literary education at Mt. Union College, and then commenced teaching school in his native county, serving as superintendent of schools at Monongahela City for a time. While there he married Miss Elivira J. Letherman, who was born June 11, 1838, a daughter of John and Christina Letherman, of Washington county, Pennsylvania, and of German descent. Her father was a soldier of the war of 1812, and a farmer by occupation. To Mr. and Mrs. Tombaugh were born seven children, five of whom are still living, namely: Charles R., who is represented on another page of this volume; Alice I., wife of E. F. Pound, of Glen Elder, Kansas; Dr. Frank M., medical examiner for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad at Burlington, Iowa; Nettie Z., wife of W. F. Worthley, of Odell, Illinois; and John L., a student in the Chicago Medical College. Raymond R., the third in order of birth, died June 25, 1886, at the age of nineteen years. Horace Reid, the fifth child died in infancy.

In 1865 Mr. Tombaugh came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased land in Reading township, when this country was quite new and but slightly improved. After making his home there for three years he moved to Sunbury township and bought another farm. While living there he served as principal of the schools of Odell for one year, and in 18873 was elected county superintendent of schools, which important position he held until 1882, the term at that time being four years. While in office a change was made in the election laws and he was elected by the board of supervisors for one year. During his incumbency he made many important changes in the schools which have been of permanent value, and it is conceded that he was a very effective

school officer. Selling his farm in Sunbury township, in 1876, he bought property in Odell township, and successfully engaged in farming there up to the time of his death.

After 1882 Mr. Tombaugh served as supervisor of his township and was also a member of the Odell school board. He was a Republican in politics and a member of the Masonic fraternity. Both he and his wife held membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and took an active part in its work. He served as superintendent of the Sunday schools twelve years; was president of the County Sunday School Association; and was also steward, trustee and church secretary, in fact was one of the pillars of his church. While one of a fishing party at Marseilles, Illinois, May 13, 1887, he was drowned while attempting to rescue another member of the party who had fallen in the river. He was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him on account of his sterling worth and true nobility of character, and his death was widely and deeply mourned. His estimable wife still survives him and makes her home in Odell.

CHARLES R. TOMBAUGH.

Charles R. Tombaugh, the present county superintendent of schools, was born near Washington, Washington county, Pennsylvania, October 1, 1862, and is a son of Matthias and Elvira J. (Letherman) Tombaugh, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this work. He was about three years old when brought by his parents to Livingston county, Illinois. He began his education in the schools of Sunbury township, later attended the common chools of Odell and then taught school for five winters in this county, at the end of which time he entered the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois. After his return home he resumed teaching and taught for six years, during which time he was principal of the East Side School at Dwight, and also principal of the schools at Chebanse and Odell. While at Odell he was president of the Livingston County Teachers' Association for two years, and also an instructor in the County Teachers' Institute. After the death of his father, in 1887, he took charge of the home farm and carried it on until he assumed the duties of his present position as county superintendent of schools. He was elected on the Republican ticket, and in 1898 was renominated by acclamation and again elected to that office. The educational meetings held during his term have been most successful, and he has the entire confidence and respect of the people.

On his election to his present office Professor Tombaugh moved to Pontiac, and now has a pleasant home at No. 311 South Vermilion street. On the 20th of January, 1892, he married Mrs. Anna L. Bradrick, a daughter of Rev. Samuel Deach, of the Central Illinois Methodist Episcopal conference. Rev. and Mrs. Deach were in Kansas for a time on account of his health, and Mrs. Tombaugh was educated in Salina, that state. By a former marriage she has one child, Margaret L. Bradrick, and she has borne our subject three children: Alice V., Glen D. and Stella M.

Professor Tombaugh was made a Mason in Odell Lodge, No. 401, F. & A. M., in which he served as warden, but has since demitted to Pontiac lodge, No. 294, where he is now sering his fourth year as mas-

ter. Both he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is now a member of the offical board of the church and president of the Livingston County Sunday School Association. While a resident of Dwight, Chebanse and Odell, he was superintendent of the Sunday schools there, having like his father devoted much time to Sunday school work. He has followed closely in the footsteps of his father, having held practically all of the local, county and church offices held by the latter. As a citizen he ever stands ready to discharge any duty devolving upon him, and as an educator he stands deservedly high.

EMILE A. SIMMONS.

The man who achieves success in the le gal profession is even more strictly the "architect of his own fortunes" than is the average self-made man, there being in the keen competition of the lawyer's life, with its constantly recurring mental duel between eager and determined antagonists, no chance for the operation of influences which may be called to the aid of the merchant, the manufacturer or the financier. Among the men of Livingston county who have demonstrated their abilites in this difficult field Emile A. Simmons holds a leading place, being one of the prominent attorneys of Pontiac.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Simmons was born in Avon, October 19, 1865, and is a son of George and Charlotte L. J. (Mailliard) Simmons. The father was born, reared and educated in Hamilton, Madison county, New York, and as a young man removed to Avon, Illinois, about 1850, where he followed the carpenter's trade, and also engaged in farming, making his home there until his death. He held different local offices, including those of justice of the peace, assessor and collector, and was a Republican in politics, having been an abolitionist in New York. His father was a soldier of the war of 1812, and a life-long resident of Hamilton, New York, where he followed the occupation of farming. The mother of our subject was born in Florence, Italy, of French parentage, and was reared in France until twelve years of age, when she came to America with her family and settled in Avon, Illinois. Her father was Ely Mailliard. She is still living, but the father of our subject died in 1892.

During his boyhood and youth Emile A. Simmons attended the public schools of Avon, and at the age of sixteen commenced teaching. After following that profession for six years, he became a student at the Normal School in Normal, Illinois, and after leaving that institution again taught school for two years, being principal of the school at Vermont, Illinois. In December, 1889, he came to Pontiac and entered the office of A. C. Ball, studying law with him two years, and also teaching the latter year. The following year he was in the office of McIlduff & Torrance, and in May, 1892, was appointed deputy circuit clerk. While in that position seeing the practice of leading lawyers was of great benefit to him. In August, 1892, he was examined at Mt. Vernon by the judges of the appellate court, and a certificate issued at the next session of the supreme court at that place the following November. In December he left the clerk's office and entered the office of Mr. McIlduff, remaining with him until August, 1894, when he opened an office of his own.

He is now successfully engaged in practice before all the courts of the state.

On the 31st of December, 1894, Mr. Simmons was united in marriage with Miss Katherine M. Smith, of Avon, a daughter of P. H. Smith, and to them has been born one child, Louise A. They hold membership in St. Mary's Catholic church, of Pontiac, and fraternally Mr. Simmons is a member of Crescent Lodge, K. P., is clerk of the Camp, M. W. A., of Pontiac, and is president of the Pontiac Colony Pioneer Reserve Association. He is also director and treasurer of associated charities of Pontiac. For some time he has been secretary of the Pontiac Loan & Building Association—a home loan building concern, whose assets amount to one hundred and twelve thousand dollars. He is also a member of the company. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and takes an active and prominent part in local politics. He still retains an interest in educational affairs, and in April, 1900, was elected to the Pontiac township high school board. He is also serving his second term as a member of the board of directors of the Pontiac public library, receiving his appointment from the mayor, and as a progressive and public-spirited citizen, he takes a deep interest in every enterprise calculated to advance the moral, social and educational welfare of his community.

COLONEL FRANK L. SMITH.

Colonel Frank L. Smith, of Governor Tanner's staff, is one of the leaders of the Republican party in Livingston county, his large acquaintance and unbounded popularity giving him an influential following, while his shrewd judgment of men and affairs make his counsel of value in all important movements. In business circles he also takes a foremost rank, his success as a real estate dealer being all the more notable from the fact that it has been secured by his own judicious management.

This prominent citizen of Dwight, a member of the well-known firm of Romberger & Smith, was born in that city November 24, 1867, and is a son of Jacob J. and Jane E. (Ketcham) Smith, natives of Germany and New York, respectively. The father was only four years old when brought to America by his parents, who located in Pennsylvania, but at the age of fifteen he came to Dwight, Illinois, which continued to be his home until 1891, when he removed to Chicago, where he died in 1894. His wife died nine years previous. In their family were three children.

Colonel Smith received his early education in the public schools of Dwight, and at the age of seventeen taught school in Round Grove township for about one year, after which he accepted a position in the freight department of the Chicago & Alton Railroad at Dwight, remaining with them in a clerical capacity about four years. In 1887 he went to Chicago and accepted a similar position with the Rock Island Railroad, being located at the Englewood station two years. Subsequently he served as cashier with P. H. Bolton & Company, commission merchants on South Water street, Chicago, until 1890, when he returned to Dwight and entered into partnership with W. H. Ketcham in the real estate and loan business. When that firm was dissolved April 1, 1895, Colonel Smith became connected in business with C. L. Romberger un-

der the name of Romberger & Smith, their specialty being real estate and real estate work, although they do a private banking business for the accommodation of friends and acquaintances. Without question the firm does one of the largest loan and real estate businesses in central Illinois, this fact being conceded by all other firms in their line. At present they are extensively interested in Mississippi and Louisiana lands. Their holdings in the latter state are timber lands, which the firm purchased with the view of enhancing their value, and in January, 1900, they sold one tract of twelve thousand acres in Madison parish. This is desirable property, being accessible to steamboats and the Vicksburg, Shreveport & Pacific Railroad. The Mississippi land is in the Delta country, and is also covered with hard wood timber, principally oak, pecan and gum. When cleared this will become excellent cotton land. Besides this property, the firm has about fifteen hundred acres of fine farming land in Lee county, Illinois, which is well improved and under a high state of cultivation, and also operate largely in Iowa and Indiana lands.

On the 8th of February, 1893, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Erminie Ahern, of Dwight, a daughter of John and Margaret Ahern, who are at present living in Ogden, Utah. Mrs. Smith is a member of St. Patrick's Catholic church, of Dwight, and the Colonel belongs to Hebron lodge, No. 75, K. P., and Dwight Camp, M. W. A. Since attaining his majority he has affiliated with the Republican party, and has taken a very active and prominent part in political affairs, always attending the county conventions and serving as a delegate to the state conventions three times. In the spring of 1900 he was offered the nomination for state senator on his party ticket, but would not accept on account of his business interests, though the nomination was equivalent to an election in his district, which is strongly Republican. Early in his career he served as city clerk in Dwight, but since then he has never been prevailed upon to accept office. In January, 1897, he was appointed colonel on Governor Tanner's staff, and in that capacity has participated in many important functions, being present at the inauguration of President McKinley at Washington, D. C., in March, 1897; the unveiling of the Grant monument at New York; the unveiling of Logan's monument at Chicago; the christening of the battleship Illinois at Newport News, Virginia; and the dedication of the Illinois monument at Chattanooga, Tennessee.

HON. NELSON J. MYER.

There are in every community men of great force of character and exceptional ability, who by reason of their capacity for leadership become recognized as foremost citizens, and take a very important part in public affairs. Such a man is Mr. Myer, who is now so efficiently surving as superintendent of the Livingston county farm in Eppards Point township.

He was born in that township, July 30, 1851, and is a son of Judge Eli Myer, who was born and reared in Maryland, and at the age of eighteen years moved to Licking county, Ohio, locating near Newark. There he married, and continued to make it his home until after the birth of several of his children. In 1850 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased a tract of raw land in Eppards Point township, to

the cultivation and improvement of which he at once turned his attention. Later he bought more land and at one time owned five hundred and sixty acres, which he placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with a good set of farm buildings. He was a man of good business ability, and was one of the most prominent and influential citizens of his community, being called upon to serve as associate judge, and township treasurer and clerk for some years each. He died upon the old home place December 28, 1868, and his wife passed away June 5, 1875.

Nelson J. Myer grew to manhood upon the farm and attended the local schols, but the knowledge there acquired has been greatly supplemented by reading and study in later years. For some time he and his brother operated the old homestead together, and in 1875 Mr. Moyer purchased eighty acres in sections 21 and 16, on which he lived and there made his home until 1895, when he took charge of the Livingston county farm. He has been very successful in the management of this place, and has gained an enviable reputation as one of its most efficient superintendents. When he took charge of the farm it had fifty-one inmates, but the number has since been increased to eighty-four, which includes a number of insane, old and decrepit persons. In the management of the place and the care of the inmates, he has been greatly assisted by his estimable wife.

In this county, December 17, 1871, Mr. Myer married Miss Helen E. McElhiney, who was born in Green county, Wisconsin, but was reared and educated in Stephenson county, Illinois. Her father was James McElhiney. To our subject and his wife have been born two children: Nelson D., who is attending the Pontiac High School, and James O., a student in the home school.

In his political affiliations Mr. Myer is a pronounced Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for General U. S. Grant in 1872. He has taken a very active and prominent part in political affairs, and has been elected to several offices, serving as township collector several years, and was justice of the peace for eight years from 1876. In 1881 he was elected supervisor, and filled that office continuously for ten years, during which time he was chairman of a number of important committees. He was elected to the state legislature in 1888, and so acceptably did he fill that office that he was re-elected for another term, and was a member of the committees on state institutions, revenue and others. In 1893 he was again elected supervisor, was re-elected two years later and made chairman of the county board. He resigned that office to accept his present position as superintendent of the county farm. His official duties have always been discharged with a fidelity and promptness worthy of the highest commendation, and he is today one of the best-known and most popular citizens of the county. Religiously both he and his wife are members of the Center Methodist Episcopal church.

CHRISTOPHER W. STERRY.

Christopher W. Sterry, of Pontiac, was born in Somerset county, Maine, August 12, 1826. His father, Samuel Sterry, also a native of Maine, was born in 1782, married Hannah Harding, in 1807, and served through the war of 1812, dying at his home in Somerset county in 1827, when Christo-

C. W. STERRY.

pher was less than one year old. The paternal grandfather, David Sterry, was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war, and died at his home in Maine at the advanced age of eighty-eight years and eight months.

The mother, Hannah Harding Sterry, was a devoted Christian woman. She was born in 1788, and died in Maine in 1871, when eighty-two years old. At the death of her husband she was left with five sons, the eldest less than eighteen years old and the youngest, Christopher, not a year old, to face the stern realities of life with but scant means of support. The devoted mother, after a heroic struggle for several years to keep her family of boys together, found it necessary to find homes for them. Thus the subject of this sketch, when but eight years of age, was placed among strangers, where he remained under harsh treatment and hard work, and but few opportunities for school privileges for four years, when he could endure it no longer, and ran away. When fifteen he worked six months for twenty-five dollars, and at eighteen he went into Massachusetts and commenced work at twelve dollars and a half per month on a farm. Then he became engaged in manufacturing business, in which he continued until he came to Illinois in 1852, and located in Chicago, where he remained four years, having charge of the stone sawing works of A. S. Sherman & Company. In 1856 he was engaged as bookkeeper of the Sheffield Mining & Transportation Company, of Sheffield, Bureau county. It was in this year, 1856, that Mr. Sterry came into Livingston county and settled in Esmen township, where he bought a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land, seven miles north of Pontiac. This he improved, erecting buildings and making of it a pleasant home, on which he lived for many years, engaged in farming and stock-raising. During this time he added one hundred and seventy acres to the homestead, which he still retains in the highest degree of cultivation, and became possessed of large business interests and property holdings in New Orleans, Louisiana. The latter required so much attention that he left his farm in 1884 and moved into Pontiac. Securing one of the finest locations in the city on the north bank of picturesque Vermillion, Mr. Sterry erected on it one of the most elegant modern residences in Pontiac. It is located on East Water street, in the midst of spacious grounds extending back to the river, and is shaded by grand old oaks and native forest trees. Here he makes his home, though business as well as comfort calls him south during the winter months.

Soon after becoming a citizen of Pontiac, Mr. Sterry became identified with the business interests of the city, first by establishing the jewelry, drug, book and wall paper firm of John S. Murphy & Company. A little later he was one of the principal organizers of the Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Company, which was incorporated in 1889, taking one-third of the stock and furnishing financial backing to a much greater extent. He has been a director and president of the company from its organization. It is the chief industry of Pontiac, and is considered a prime factor in its prosperity and growth. Starting up in October, 1889, it has grown to a capacity of two thousand pairs of shoes per day, and furnishes employment to three hundred men and women, the majority of whom are skilled workmen. The product of the factory is disposed of throughout the territory from Ohio to the

Pacific coast on the west and the Gulf of Mexico on the south.

In 1897 Mr. Sterry purchased Riverside Park, adjoining the city on the east, and almost encircled by the Vermillion river, shaded by stately native forest trees, thus securing its use for the Pontiac Chautauqua Association, which he assisted in organizing, and in which he was the largest stockholder. He is also largely interested in the Pontiac State Bank, of which he has been director and vice-president since its organization. While he does not give special attention to the details of this business, yet the mere fact of his connection with its has served to increase the confidence of the business community in its conservative management. He is also president and largest stockholder of the Riverside Irrigation Company, of Idaho, which controls some fifteen thousand acres of arable land in that state. About thirty miles of canal have been constructed and is in operation for irrigation purposes. In 1899 he erected the four-story office building on the southwest corner of Court House square. It is known as the Sterry block, and will doubtless be a landmark for years to come as its equal has not appeared in any city the size of Pontiac. It fronts eighty feet on Washington street and one hundred feet on South Mill street, and is four stories above the basement. It consists of two stores and the Pontiac State Bank below, and of sixty suites of offices above, which are made accessible by an electric-power passenger elevator, heated by steam and supplied with city water and with electric lighting.

As a citizen Mr. Sterry has ever been ready to accept the responsibilities and perform his duty in the most conscientious way. While as a matter of choice he would have avoided the cares of public office, yet he has served many years in various official positions. In Esmen township he served as school director, trustee, school treasurer, justice of the peace and supervisor. He was a member of the board of supervisors of Livingston county for several terms, and as such, aided in securing the location of the State Reform School at Pontiac.

Having been a strong advocate of anti-slavery principles even as an abolitionist, on the organization of the new party, he became a stanch Republican, and during the war of the Rebellon was an active member of the Union League. He continued to act with the party until the old issues were settled, and he became convinced that the new and greater issue of temperance could expect no real support from the old party. He then gave the Prohibition party his liberal support and became an ardent supporter of that party.

Realizing in his own life what he missed through want of school privileges, he has been an ardent supporter of the public school system and also of higher education. He has been a supporter especially of New Orleans University, of which he is a trustee, of Wheaton College, and of Illinois Wesleyan University.

In 1847 Mr. Sterry was married to Miss Elizabeth Day, who lived with him seven years, bearing to him three children, all of whom died in infancy, while her death occurred March 25, 1855.

In 1858 he married Miss Amanda Hadley, daughter of the late James P. Hadley, a prominent farmer of Sunbury township, this county. One child was born, and lived but a short time, and the wife also was taken away after a union of a little more than one year. In 1861 he was united in marriage

with Mrs. Mary C. Beeler, a daughter of John Ross, of Sangamon county, and she has been spared to live with him until the present time. To them have been born six children: Lida, wife of Dr. C. H. Long, of Pontiac, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; John L., the only son, a young man of great promise who died at the age of twenty years, in 1884, while attending the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he was preparing himself for the ministry; Hattie and Josephine, who both died in infancy; Mary E., wife of E. M. Kirkpatrick, a prominent grain merchant of Chenoa, Illinois; and Jessie, wife of Clarence B. Hurtt, now a resident of Roswell, Idaho, where he is serving as secretary of the Riverside Irrigation Company. They have also four grandchildren, Christopher Sterry Long, Mary Catherine Long, John Nelson Hurtt and Baby Hurtt.

Mr. Sterry early identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal church, and for many years has served in official capacity as steward, trustee and Sunday school superintendent. While in Esmen he was instrumental in securing the erection of the Esmen Center church. On moving to Pontiac he was immediately chosen as a trustee of the First Methodist Episcopal church, and on the destruction of the old church by fire in 1885, he aided in the building of the present church edifice. He is president of the board of trustees, having held that office for a number of years.

For almost half a century Mr. Sterry has been a resident of Livingston county. On his arrival here the greater part of its rich land was yet unbroken, its inhabitants were few in number, widely scattered and the improvements were not of the best. He has certainly done well his part. Thoroughly honest and conscientious in all he does, he has won the respect and confidence of all with whom he has been brought in contact, and his lifework is worthy of emulation by the generations to follow.

CAPTAIN SILAS MILTON WITT.

Captain Silas Milton Witt, an honored veteran of the civil war and a prominent resident of Pontiac, Illinois, who is now living a retired life, was born in Lebanon, Boone county, Indiana, February 1, 1842, and is a son of Michael and Lohama (Wall) Witt, the former a native of Guilford county, North Carolina, of which state his father, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, was an early settler. The maternal grandfather, Elisha Wall, also fought for the independence of the colonies. He was a relative of Daniel Boone, who was a frequent visitor at his home, and they often hunted and trapped together. Later Mr. Wall went with Boone and a number of others to Kentucky, becoming pioneers of that state.

Michael Witt, our subject's father, grew to manhood on the home farm in his native state, and from there entered the service of his country during the war of 1812, serving as captain of a company. Later he was commissioned colonel in the North Carolina militia, and after his removal to Indiana was an officer in the state militia there. Our subject well remembers seeing him on horseback on general training days, which at that time were the important days of the year. Soon after his marriage Michael Witt and his wife removed to the territory of Indiana, and she was the first white woman to locate in Lebanon, the county

seat of Boone county. There he engaged in farming for a time, and after the town was started opened out an old fashioned general store, hauling his goods first from Cincinnati and later from Indianapolis and Lafayette. He became one of the successful men of that locality, owning large tracts of land, and part of the town of Lebanon was built on the first three hundred and twenty acres which he purchased. He held much of this property until his death, the land later becoming very valuable. As a Whig he took quite an active and prominent part in local politics, and held a number of offices, including those of county judge and coroner. He left the south on account of slavery, and also because he believed that men of moderate means could do better in the north. Both he and his wife are devout members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and his home was always the stopping place for the ministers. His first house in Lebanon was a sort of hotel for travelers journeying between Lafayette and Cincinnati, and in those days he was *the* man of the town. He died there March 2, 1861, and was buried the day President Lincoln was first inaugurated. Our subject's mother died in Dwight, this county, in 1874. They left a family of sixteen children, of whom our subject is the youngest. Both had been married before, the mother's first husband being a Mr. Blair, of Kentucky.

Captain Witt received a good practical education in the schools of Lebanon, and aided his father in the work of the farm and store until the civil war broke out. On the night of the surrender of Fort Sumter, April 13, 1861, he enlisted for three months as a private in Company I, Tenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, at the president's first call for seventy-five thousand men. They joined General McClelland in West Virginia, and with him participated in the battle of Rich Mountain, July 11, which was followed by the engagement at Phillippi Tunnel Hill. When his term of enlistment expired, Captain Witt returned home and was made recruiting officer at Lebanon, where he helped recruit the Tenth, Fortieth, Eighty-sixth and One Hundred and Sixteenth Indiana Regiments, raising two companies for the Eighty-sixth. In the spring of 1863 he enlisted as orderly sergeant in Company G, One Hundred and Sixteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was first ordered to Dearborn, Michigan, to guard the arsenal there during the time of the Vallandingham trouble. Crossing the lake to Cleveland, he proceeded to Camp Nelson, Kentucky, where he joined his brigade, and later was through the east Tennessee and Knoxville campaign, capturing Cumberland Cap the last time. This was followed by the siege of Knoxville and the engagement at Walker's Ford and Tazewell, Tennessee, where his regiment was on the extreme left of Burnside's army. In March, 1864, he was mustered out and appointed deputy provost marshal with headquarters at Lafayette, Indiana, where he helped the deputy provost marshal organize a regiment, then went to Indianapolis, where he secured arms and ammunition and started in pursuit of Morgan. He spent sixty days on this expedition, and assisted in capturing some of Morgan's forces at Mt. Vernon. When the president called for troops to push the Atlanta campaign, he helped organize Company E, One Hundred and Thirty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was commissioned second lieutenant. They were on duty in Kentucky, Alabama and North Carolina, and participated in the battle of Look-

out Mountain. Captain Witt was always with his regiment with the exception of three days when ill with fever after the battle of Tazewell, but was never in the hospital. After being mustered out in the fall of 1864 he returned to Lebanon, Indiana.

At Lebanon Captain Witt was married, November 10, 1864, to Miss Maria L. Landon, a daughter of Myron and Martha (Jeffers) Landon. Her father removed from Ohio to Indiana at an early day, and was one of the first teachers in his locality. He was a prominent Mason. He died when Mrs. Witt was only a year old and her mother died two years later. Their eldest son, Albert Landon, was a prominent member of the Humane Society, of Chicago, and was the publisher of the Humane Journal until his death, a period of over thirty years. Mrs. Witt spent her early life in Shelbyville, Indianapolis and Lebanon, Indiana. To the captain and his wife were born three children, namely: Hattie A., now the wife of L. S. Baldwin, of Noblesville, Indiana; Jessie M., wife of Philip Piper, a dentist of Pontiac; and Albert M., at home, who has been a member of the National Guard for three years, and served as corporal in Company F, Third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Spanish-American war.

On the 13th of November, 1864, Captain Witt removed to Dwight, Illinois, where he engaged in the real estate business one year, dealing first in farm and later in village property. In 1866 he was appointed marshal of that town, and held the office thirteen years; was also deputy sheriff ten years and constable nineteen years. For a year and a half he engaged in the harness business, but at length was forced to give it up as his various official duties required his entire time. At the same time he also held other local offices, such as school director, street commissioner, and was fire marshal fourteen years. As a Republican he has always taken an active part in political affairs. In 1866 on the first organization of the Grand Army Post at Dwight, under the old dispensation Captain Witt became one of the charter members, but the organization afterward went down. Since 1880 he has been a member of T. Lyle Dickey Post, of Pontiac, of which he is now past commander, and which he has represented in the state encampment, and was also elected to represent his district to the national encampment at Chicago in the fall of 1900. He was a member of Dwight Lodge, I. O. O. F., and admitted to Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, in which he has filled all the chairs. He is also a member of the encampment, and was the organizer and captain of the Canton for three years. For many years he was an active member of the Independent Order of Good Templars, and was an officer in the same until the lodge disbanded.

For ten years Captain Witt was a member of the Illinois National Guard, and rose from second lieutenant to captain of his company, thus gaining his title. During the strike of 1877 he was in active service with his company for three months, being stationed at Braidwood. After his election to the office of sheriff he had to disband the company as his men refused to elect another captain, so well was he loved by them, and he was given permission to disband them by Governor Cullom.

It was in 1882 that Captain Witt was elected sheriff of Livingston county, which office he filled for four years with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. At one time he had thirty-two prisoners in the jail. Later he was appointed an officer

in the Illinois State Reformatory under Dr. Scouller, but resigned after holding the position for two years and four months, and returned to Dwight, where he was engaged in business for a year and a half. Subsequently he conducted a bakery in Pontiac, but is now living retired, enjoying a well earned rest. His beautiful home at No. 603 West Grove street, is pleasantly located on the banks of the Vermilion river in what is now the best portion of the city, and the lawn and garden surrounding it cover one acre of ground. The Captain and his wife are leading members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Pontiac, and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them, while their circle of friends throughout the county is extensive.

WILLIAM KIMBER.

William Kimber, a thorough and skillful farmer residing on section 10, Esmen township, Livingston county, six miles west of Odell, was born near the city of London, England, October 10, 1853, a son of Jesse and Alice (Hacket) Kimber, natives of the same country. In 1873 he crossed the broad Atlantic with his parents, and on landing in New York proceeded at once to La Salle county, Illinois, where his brother and sister had located four years previously. There the father rented land and engaged in farming for several years, but finally came to Livingston county and spent his last days on a farm in Esmen township with our subject, dying here May 11, 1885. The wife and mother departed this life October 19, 1883, and both were laid to rest in Esmen township cemetery. In their family were three children: Mary, wife of Samuel Mills, of Grundy county; Percival, a farmer of Esmen township, Livingston county; and William.

Our subject was given good educational advantages in his native land. On the emigration of the family to America, he assisted his parents and worked as a farm hand by the month for six years. He was married in De Kalb county, January 1, 1880, to Miss Caroline Rose Tomlin, a native of Adams township, La Salle county. Her father, James Tomlin, was born in England, and came to America in 1842 when a young man, and located in Illinois. To Mr. and Mrs. Kimber were born seven children, namely: Bertha May, now the wife of Henry Warner, of La Salle county; Jesse Arthur, Ella Alice, Edward James, Dora Ann, Caroline Eliza and William Andrew, all at home.

For five years after his marriage Mr. Kimber operated a rented farm adjoining his present place, and in 1884 bought eighty acres where he now resides, but did not locate thereon until a year later, though he had engaged in its cultivation for two years. To the original purchase he has since added a forty-acre tract, and now has a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings. He is an industrious, enterprising and progressive man, and to these characteristics may be attributed his success, for he received no outside aid.

By his ballot Mr. Kimber supports the men and measures of the Prohibition party, and he served one term as a member of the school board, but has never cared for official honors. Religiously both he and his wife are earnest and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Esmen

Center, of which he is a trustee. In the Sunday school he has served several years as superintendent.

WILLIAM W. WASSOM.

William W. Wassom is one of Pontiac's highly respected citizens, whose useful and well-spent life has not only gained for him the confidence of his fellow men, but has also secured for him a comfortable competence which enables him to lay aside all business cares and live retired. A native of Illinois, he was born in Spring Valley, Bureau county, December 1, 1848, and is a son of Jacob and Jane (Scott) Wassom. The father was born in Pennsylvania, but when a small boy accompanied his parents on their removal to Tennessee, where he was reared, and as a young man came to this state, locating in Bureau county. There he was married, and subsequently removed to Burlington, Iowa, where he purchased a farm and successfully engaged in general farming and stock-raising, where he remained seven years. Then returning to Bureau county he purchased a farm on the site of the present village of Spring Valley. He was a prominent man in his community and took an active interest in the early schools. He died there August 25, 1879. The wife and mother died when our subject was only four years old. Both were earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church. She was a native of Virginia, and a daughter of Robert Scott, of Scotch descent, who was one of the earliest settlers and most prosperous farmers of Bureau county. He manufactured the brick of which his house was constructed, and that building is still standing. He was probably the first manufacturer of brick in that county.

William W. Wassom was educated in the schools of Hall township, and remained with his father until coming to Livingston county in 1868, when he took up his residence in Nevada township. While living there he was married, June 29, 1871, to Miss Hannah Sharp, a native of Farm Ridge, Illinois, and a daughter of George and Catherine (Spence) Sharp. Her father was born in Ireland of English parentage, being a son of Noble Sharp, who never emigrated to America. George Sharp was married in Ireland, and later crossed the Atlantic to Toronto, Canada, whence he removed to Farm Ridge, Illinois. Subsequently he took up his residence in Dwight, and later upon a farm in Nevada township, this county. He was highly respected and was called upon to fill different township offices. Mr. and Mrs. Wassom have a family of six children, namely: Jacob, a resident of Marengo, Iowa; Charles Bert, who is living on the Blackstone farm, in Sunbury township; Fannie, who married Everett Ferguson, of Saunemin, this county, and has two children, Laurine and Lela; Ada, who resides at home and is successfully engaged in teaching in the schools of this county; George, who was graduated from the Pontiac High School in 1900; and Catherine, who is still attending the high school.

On locating in this county, Mr. Wassom found considerable wild game and much of the land was still in its primitive condition. He purchased eighty acres of raw prairie in Nevada township, which he at once commenced to break, fence and improve. Prospering in his new home, he purchased more land until he owned five eighty acre tracts,

which he tiled and put in first class condition, making one of the best improved farms in the township. He also owned another eighty-acre tract in Sunbury township, and in connection with the operation of his land was engaged in stock raising. He always kept a good grade and had considerable registered stock on hand, being among the first to introduce it. In 1895 he moved to Pontiac and bought a pleasant home at No. 608 North Mill street, where he has since lived retired.

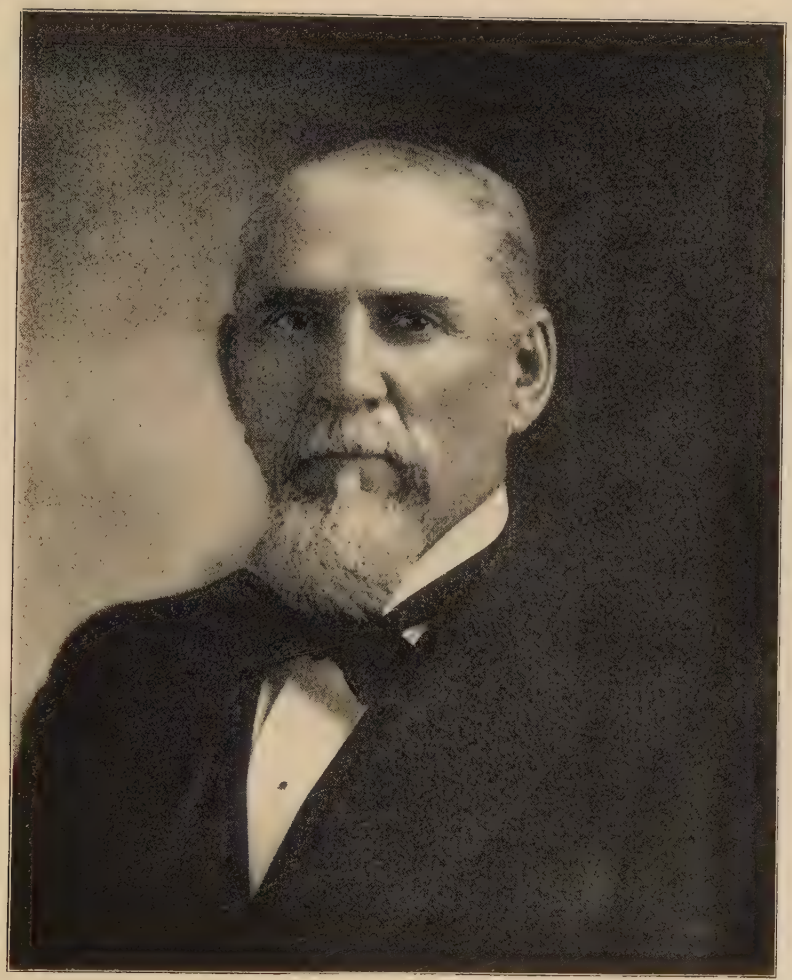
Politically Mr. Wassom has always been identified with the Republican party, but has never held office, his home being in a strong Democratic township where his party could get nothing that the Democrats would take. He was an efficient member of the school board for some time, and helped to erect the school buildings in his township. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and while living in the country he served as superintendent of the Sunday school one year and took a leading part in church work, filling all of the different official positions. He was a member of the building committee when the church was erected in Nevada in 1873, and hauled the first load of stone for its foundation. He is now connected with the church in Pontiac. Wherever known he is held in high regard, and justly merits the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens.

HON. ROBERT R. WALLACE.

In the legal profession, which embraces some of the finest minds in the nation, it is difficult to win a name and place of prominence. In commercial life one may start out on a more advanced plane than others; he may enter into a business already established and carry it further forward, but in the legal profession one must commence at the beginning and work his way upward by ability, gaining his reputation and success by merit. People do not place their legal business in unskilled hands, and those who to-day stand at the head of their profession, must merit their position. Among the most prominent lawyers of Livingston county is Robert R. Wallace, of Pontiac, who served as county judge for the long period of twenty-one years.

The Judge was born in Belmont county, Ohio, March 13, 1835, a son of David and Frances (Ross) Wallace. His paternal grandfather was David Wallace, who came to this country from the north of Ireland and was a strong United Presbyterian in religious belief. The maternal grandfather, Robert Ross, was of Scotch descent, and also a stanch member of the United Presbyterian church. The Judge's father was born in western Pennsylvania, and reared there and in eastern Ohio, while the mother was born near Chambersburg, in eastern Pennsylvania, and when young removed to the western part of that state. During his active life David Wallace engaged in farming in Belmont and Guernsey counties, Ohio, and in 1869 came to Illinois, locating near Biggsville, Henderson county, where he continued to engage in agricultural pursuits until his death in 1875. His wife still survives him and is now living with a daughter in Kansas at the age of ninety-one years.

During his boyhood Judge Wallace attended the common schools of his native county and completed his education at Monmouth, Illinois, where he received the degrees of A. B. and A. M. and was graduated



R. R. WALLACE.

with the class of 1861. In December of that year he responded to his country's call for troops, enlisting in Company K, Seventy-fourth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was first sent to Xenia, Ohio, and from there to Camp Chase, Columbus, where he was engaged in guarding prisoners for a time, and later with the Army of the Cumberland he participated in all the battles from Nashville to Atlanta, and after the fall of the latter city took part in the defense of Nashville. Later he was on post duty near there and Memphis until the time of his term of enlistment. He had re-enlisted in the same regiment and was promoted to captain during the summer of 1863, remaining in the service until 1866.

Judge Wallace had previously commenced the study of law, and after the war resumed the reading at Orrville, Ohio, being admitted to the bar in 1867. In the fall of that year he located in Circleville, Livingston county, where he was engaged in general practice until his removal to Fowler in the spring of 1872, having the previous fall been elected county judge on what was known as the anti-monopoly ticket. He took the office in December, 1873, and held it for the statutory term—a longer period than other county officer has been retained in one position. His fast growing acquaintance, efficiency, popularity and fidelity to duty during all this time he continued to engage in active practice and to-day is one of the leading general practitioners of the county. He is an honored member of T. Lyle Dickey Post, G. A. R., and is past commander of the same.

On the 3d of June, 1867, Judge Wallace was united in marriage with Miss Louise Strawn, a daughter of Isaiah and [illegible] Champney, natives of Illinois, and to them were born four children. Robert S., now chief engineer of the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City Company, at Peoria; Frances, Louise and Grace, a teacher in the schools of Joliet. The family have a pleasant home at No. 304 Kansas street, and are prominent members of the Presbyterian church of Fowler.

MILLER HOTALING.

Miller Hotaling, a successful farmer and land owner on section 31, Avon township, and a resident of Livingston county since 1876, was born in Greene county, New York, July 30, 1820, and is a son of Richard and Dolly (Miller) Hotaling, both natives of that state and of German descent. The latter died in New York in 1882, where he had followed farming quite early in life. His wife survives him and lives on the old Miller homestead, which was occupied by her father for sixty years, never passing out of the family. She is now seventy-three years of age, and has always been active. Her subject's paternal grandfather served as lieutenant through the war of 1812. The family were formerly Whigs, and upon the formation of the Republican party joined its ranks. To Richard Hotaling and wife were born eight children, five of whom are still living, namely: Annie, wife of John Jacobs, of Hazelton, Pennsylvania; Augusta, wife of Harry Herr, of Auburn, New York; Miller, who lives with his mother on the old Miller homestead; Van Allen, a prosperous farmer and land owner of Livingston county, Illinois, and Miller, the subject of this sketch. Jacob, the oldest son, was a [illegible]

during the civil war, was taken prisoner and sent to Andersonville, where he was incarcerated twenty-two months before exchanged, and contracted disease from which he died in 1865, just as he was released.

Miller Hotaling received a common school education in his native state and grew to manhood on his father's farm. On leaving the parental roof at the age of seventeen years he came to Illinois and worked as a farm hand for two years in McLean county, at the end of which time he rented a farm and carried on farming quite successfully in that way for a number of years. In 1885 he purchased fifty acres of rich and arable land on section 31, Avoca township, Livingston county, and has since engaged in general farming here with marked success. He has added to the original purchase another fifty-acre tract; has made many valuable improvements on the place and to-day has a most desirable farm. He gives his entire time and attention to the improvement and cultivation of his land.

In 1874 Mr. Hotaling was united in marriage with Miss Flora Pulsipher, a native of Oneida, Knox county, Illinois, and to them were born four children: Lewis, who graduated at Eureka College and is now a Christian minister at Kentland, Indiana; Philip, who was graduated at the same institution, and is now assisting his father on the farm; Leah and Chloe, who are both at home. The wife and mother died at their home in Avoca township in 1887, and in 1890 Mr. Hotaling married Miss Martha Van Wormer, a native of Brimfield, Peoria county, by whom he has three children, Edna, Millie and Leola. Mrs. Hotaling is a daughter of William and Martha (Shepherd) Van Wormer, her father being a veteran of the Civil war, and who for years was engaged in farming. Both he and his wife are yet living, and are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

As a Republican Mr. Hotaling has always been an active worker in the interests of his party, and has held several minor offices in the township, faithfully fulfilling every trust reposed in him. In 1869 he was elected supervisor. He has been a school director fifteen years, always taking a stand for good schools and teachers. Religiously he is a member of the Christian church, in which he is serving as elder, and socially is a member of the Court of Honor of Fairbury. He is a man of rather unpretentious nature, but is well liked by all who know him. Mrs. Hotaling is also a member of the Christian church.

HENRY C. JONES.

Henry C. Jones, a well-known citizen of Pontiac, Illinois, was born in Cicero, Hamilton county, Indiana, February 11, 1838, a son of Henry Jones, who was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, where during his youth he learned the blacksmith's trade. When a young man he removed to Cicero, Indiana, and turned his attention to mercantile business. Here he married Emily De Moss, a daughter of James De Moss, a French Huguenot and a carpenter by trade, who passed his last days as a farmer in Livingston county, Illinois. The parents of our subject came to this county in 1845, but after a short time spent here they removed to the territory of Iowa, locating at Bellevue, where our subject began his education. In 1847 the family returned to this county, and after following farming for a short time the fa-

ther, in 1849, went to California, where for several years he was engaged in mining and mercantile pursuits. Re turning to Pontiac in 1855 he again engaged in mercantile business here, and was, in 1857, elected county judge. In 1859, resigning his office of county judge here, he returned to the Pacific slope in company with our subject and fifteen young men. He engaged in mercantile business in Shasta, California, and became one of the most prominent and prosperous men of that place. He was elected a member of the board of supervisors, and was also alcalde(or mayor) of Shasta. In connection with his other business he was quite extensively engaged in gold mining. He did much to build up the town and was recognized as one of its most influential and prominent citizens. After the Civil war he supported the Republican party and took a leading part in public affairs. He died in Shasta in 1893, and the mother of our subject died in the same place in 1868, leaving five children, of whom Henry C. was third in order of birth.

During his boyhood our subject attended the public schools of Pontiac, and when his education was completed clerked in his father's store until going to California in 1859. They made the trip overland with horseless vehicles (ox teams) and were six months upon the way. They passed through St. Joseph, Missouri, went up the Platte when the Indians in that region were quite hostile, and passed through what is now Ogden, Utah, and through Nevada. Arriving at Shasta, California, which was a good mining town, father and son opened a store and as merchants soon built up a good trade. For some years they were interested in placer and later in quartz mining. Our subject continued in business with his father until 1864, when he enlisted in the volunteer service and was elected lieutenant of his company, but when they were put in barracks and the regulars sent to the front, he resigned. That he might see some active service he went, *via* Panama, to New York with the intention of enlisting there, but the war ended before he found the opportunity.

Returning to Livingston county, Illinois, Mr. Jones entered the newspaper field, and with Mr. Renoe established the Free Press at Pontiac. Later he bought the Sentinel, the oldest newspaper in the county, from James Stout, and, consolidating the two, published a paper known as the Sentinel and Press. Mr. Renoe was a Democrat, while he was a Republican, but Mr. Renoe later withdrew, leaving Mr. Jones as sole editor and proprietor, and the paper resumed its old name as Sentinel. He continued the publication of the Sentinel for nine years, during which time he built up a good circulation and made it the leading Republican paper in the county. Selling out in 1875, he went to Texas, and engaged in the auxiliary newspaper business in Dallas, getting out patent insides. In this enterprise he was remarkably successful, having a list of two hundred and sixty-two local papers to supply. He also published the Planter and Farmer, and in that undertaking was also successful, but on account of the ill health of his wife, he disposed of his interests in Texas and removed to Santa Cruz, California, where he owns a valuable prune ranch.

In 1892 Mr. Jones returned to Pontiac and acquired a three-fifths interest in the electric light plant, having helped to develop the enterprise. This company was incorporated as the Pontiac Light, Heat & Power

Company, and has grown to large proportions. Mr. Jones served as its president for seven years, though he recently sold his interest in the same. He has been a taxpayer in Pontiac for over thirty years and is recognized as one of her most progressive citizens, giving his support to those objects which he believes will prove of public benefit. Socially he is a member of the Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M.

On the 25th of September, 1873, Mr. Jones was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Bancroft, a native of New York, and a daughter of Luther Bancroft, of Pontiac. They have one daughter, Nellie A., who with her mother is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Pontiac.

LUTHER C. HAYS.

Luther C. Hays, a practical and enterprising agriculturist of Eppards Point township, owns and operates two hundred and fifty acres of land on section 32, constituting a valuable and highly improved farm, pleasantly located nine miles south of Pontiac and three and a half miles northeast of Chenoa. His possessions have been acquired through his own efforts, and as the result of his consecutive endeavor he has won a place among the substantial citizens of his community.

Mr. Hays was born in Brown county, Ohio, July 27, 1836, and is descended from an old Connecticut family of Scotch-Irish origin. His great-grandfather, Celia Hays, was a native of that state and a pioneer of Pennsylvania. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, while the grandfather, Warren Hays, aided in the defense of his country during the war of 1812. The latter was born in Pennsylvania, and married a Miss Stark, a cousin of Rev. Lorenzo Dow. Abiel Hays, father of our subject, was born in New York, in 1813, and from that state removed to Kentucky and later to Brown county, Ohio, where in the midst of the forest he cleared and improved a farm. There he wedded Mary Kennedy, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of James and Margaret Kennedy. In 1855 he brought his family to Illinois, driving across the country with an ox team and locating first in Woodford county, but a year later he removed to Chenoa township, McLean county, where he bought land and improved a farm, making his home there for some years. He helped organize that township, which was previously only a voting precinct. His last days were spent upon a farm in southern Illinois, where he died in 1890, at the ripe old age of seventy-seven years, and his wife died in 1884, at the age of sixty-nine years. Our subject is the oldest of their family of seven children, two sons and five daughters, all of whom reached years of maturity, the others being as follows: Arminda J., deceased wife of E. C. Hyde; Clarissa A., who married John G. Dodge and died in 1898; Ellen, deceased wife of Elijah Cole; Minerva E., wife of A. D. Polk, of Minneapolis, Minnesota; Eva, who died when a young lady, and Thomas J., a resident of San Diego, California.

Luther C. Hays was a young man of nineteen years on the removal of the family to this state, and he aided his father in opening up and developing the farm in McLean county, remaining with him until his marriage. He was educated in common and select schools of his native state. With the exception of the oldest, all his sisters engaged in teaching school in McLean county.

In Chicago, Illinois, September 26, 1860, Mr. Hays married Miss Matilda Fraser, a native of Canada and a daughter of Louis and Mary Fraser, who were born in that country of French ancestry, and removed to Chicago during the childhood of Mrs. Hays. They began their domestic life upon a farm of forty acres in McLean county, to which our subject added until he had one hundred and twenty acres. He continued to operate that farm until 1888, when he purchased the two-hundred-and-fifty-acre tract of land in Eppards Point township, Livingston county, where he now resides. It was known as the 'Squire Payne farm, being entered by him in 1852. Since taking possession of this place, Mr. Hays has remodeled the residence, built a good barn, set out fruit and ornamental trees, and made many other improvements which add greatly to its value and attractive appearance.

Mr. Hays' first wife died in McLean county, in 1872, leaving four children, namely: Samuel L., who is married and engaged in farming in Oregon; Mary Frances, wife of G. L. Howard, of Byron, Nebraska; Jessie, wife of Andrew Vercler, of Salem, Oregon, and W. C., who is married and follows farming in this county. Mr. Hays was again married, in Livingston county, in 1874, to Mrs. Frances A. Clark, a daughter of Almon Rhodes, an early settler, first of La Salle county and later of Livingston county. She was first married in the former county to Wilson M. Clark, a veteran of the Civil war, who died in 1870, leaving two daughters: Alda, a teacher of Black Hawk county, Iowa, and Laura B., wife of J. C. Rainbow, of Pottawattamie county, Iowa. By his second union our subject has six children, namely: George M., who assists in the operation of the home farm; Nellie, Pearl M., Eva E., John S. and Lottie L., all at home.

Politically Mr. Hays was identified with the Republican party until 1896, when he voted for W. J. Bryan and free silver. He cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He has been a delegate to numerous conventions; served as commissioner of highways in McLean county for six years, and as a member of the school board for over thirty years, having always taken an active interest in educational affairs. Mrs. Hays and her daughter are members of the Baptist church and the family is one of prominence in the community where they reside.

CAPTAIN HENRY B. REED.

Captain Henry B. Reed, an honored citizen of Pontiac, now living a retired life at No. 504 South Mill street, is a veteran of the Civil war and bears an honorable record for brave service in the cause of freedom and union, and in the paths of peace has won an enviable reputation through the sterling qualities which go to the making of a good citizen.

The Captain was born near Pottsville, Schuylkill county, Pennsylvania, January 29, 1833, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Barley) Reed. The father was also a native of Pennsylvania and a son of Thomas Reed, who was born in the North of Ireland and came to this country six years prior to the Revolutionary war, in which he took part. He first settled near Philadelphia, and throughout life followed farming, dying at about the age of eighty years. Our subject's father was a life-long resident of Penn-

sylvania and a carpenter by trade, but at the time of his death was following farming in Schuylkill county. He died in February, 1833, when our subject was only three weeks old, and the mother, who long survived him, departed this life in 1873. They had eleven children, of whom the Captain is the youngest. Only three are now living. Elijah, now seventy-six years of age, is living retired in Schylkill Haven, Pennsylvania, after having served for twenty-two years as superintendent of the car shops at that place. His wife died leaving five children that are still living. Rebecca is the wife of Jacob Zimmerman, who also worked in the car shops at that place for a great many years, but is now living retired at the age of seventy-five years, while his wife is sixty-nine years of age. They have a family of three sons and three daughters.

Captain Reed remained with his mother in his native county until nine years of age, and then lived with a married brother on his farm in the same county until twelve years of age, when he commenced learning the shoemaker's trade in Schuylkill Haven, serving a three-years apprenticeship. The following year he was foreman in the shoe factory of Frederick Millett, at Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, and then started in business for himself at that place, remaining there until 1852 and building up a large business for those times. Receiving a good offer from the firm of Packer & Olewine, shoe manufacturers of Mauch Chunk, Pennsylvania, he accepted the position as foreman for that company, and was in their employ a year and a half, after which he returned to Tamaqua. He was elected constable and held that office until coming to Illinois in 1855. He first located in Du Page county, where he worked at his trade for a time, and later was foreman for John Wallace, at Joliet, for about a year and a half, at the end of which time he removed to Bloomington. During the Lincoln campaign of 1860, he was captain of the Wide-Awakes, and came to this county with that political organization. Being pleased with this locality he decided to remain and was engaged in the shoe business in Pontiac until the Civil war broke out.

At the President's first call for troops, Captain Reed responded, being the first to enlist in Pontiac, and he helped organize the first company from that city, which was mustered in as Company D, Twentieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He went to the front as second sergeant, but after the battle of Fort Donelson was promoted to second lieutenant, his commission citing that his promotion was for meritorious conduct on February 14, 15 and 16, 1862, at Fort Donelson. Returning home June 30, 1862, he organized a company under the large call of that year, and again entered the service as captain of Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Volunteer Infantry, which was under General Sherman's command on the march to the sea, and from there marched on to Washington, D. C. Our subject was mustered out at Chicago, in June, 1865, as captain.

After the war Captain Reed returned to his family in Pontiac, and was here engaged in the boot and shoe business for a number of years, but finally retired on account of ill health. He was appointed by Governor Oglesby as custodian of memorial hall at Springfield, and was re-appointed by Governor Fifer. Since 1894 he has led a quiet, retired life at his home in Pontiac. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, but has never

sought political honors. Religiously he is a member of the Methodist church, and socially belongs to Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., and T. Lyle Dickey Post, No. 105, G. A. R., of Pontiac, of which he is past commander. His loyalty as a citizen and his devotion to his country's interests have ever been among his marked characteristics, and the community is fortunate that numbers him among its citizens.

On the 29th of September, 1850, in Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, Captain Reed was united in marriage with Miss Esther Beck, a daughter of George and Mary (Barbary) Beck, of Carbon county, who were farming people and life-long residents of that state. The father died on his farm in Carbon county at the age of eighty-five years, his wife at eighty-six. Mrs. Reed's paternal grandfather was a native of Germany and came to this country at an early date. To the Captain and his wife were born nine children, six of whom are now living, namely: George O., born in Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, is now engaged in the boot and shoe business in Pontiac; Katie L., born in Du Page county, Illinois, is the wife of Thomas Kay, a dry-goods merchant of Pontiac; Edward O., born in Bloomington, in 1860, is now serving as county treasurer of this county, and is a prominent citizen of Pontiac; Harry B., born in Pontiac, March 17, 1862, has been mail clerk on the Chicago & Alton Railroad for fourteen years, running between Chicago and St. Louis, and makes his home in his birthplace; Joseph S., born in Pontiac, in 1864, is now a groceryman of that city and has served as alderman from the second ward; Cora E. is the widow of Frederick O. Scrivens, late of Pontiac, and is assistant county treasurer at the present time. The other children died at an early age.

FREDERICK SCHOENBECK.

Frederick Schoenbeck is one of the worthy citizens that Germany has furnished to Livingston county, and is to-day one of her most prosperous and successful farmers. He resides on section 15, Pike township, where he has a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, and besides this property he owns two other farms of similar size on sections 10 and 20, respectively.

Mr. Schoenbeck was born in the kingdom of Prussia, Germany, February 26, 1850, and attended the schools of his native land for eight years. His knowledge of English has mainly been acquired through his own unaided efforts. In 1867, at the age of seventeen years, he crossed the ocean with his mother, brother and sister and joined an uncle in Peoria, where the mother subsequently married John Rutz, who later came to Livingston county and settled on a farm in Pike township. Our subject worked for an uncle in Woodford county, and then spent a year in Peoria county. In 1871 he came to Livingston county, and after working for others two years he rented a farm, which he operated for the same length of time. At the end of that period he purchased eighty acres in section 15, Pike township, where he now resides. The improvements upon the place at that time were of a very inferior order, but he has since erected a pleasant residence, good barns and outbuildings, has built fences, planted fruit and ornamental trees and to-day has one of the best improved farms in the township. He has extended its boundaries until it now contains one hundred and sixty acres, and his other farms are both valuable places of one hundred and sixty acres each.

On the 25th of March, 1875, Mr. Schoen-

beck was married, in Peoria, Illinois, to Miss Frederica Wenke, a native of Oldenburg, Germany, and a daughter of John F. Wenke, who, on his emigration to America, settled in Peoria and purchased a farm adjoining the city, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying there in 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Schoenbeck have four children, namely: Frederick, Jr., at home; Katie, wife of John D. Klein, a son of John Klein, who is represented on another page of this volume; Anna and William, both at home.

Mr. Schoenbeck cast his first presidential ballot for Rutherford B. Hayes in 1876, and has never wavered in his allegiance to the Republican party since that time, but he has never cared for political preferment. His life has been one of industry and perseverance, and to these characteristics as well as his good business ability may be attributed his success, for he has received no outside aid. Both he and his wife were reared in the Lutheran faith and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

DAVID S. MYERS.

David S. Myers, of Pontiac, president of the Pontiac State Bank, is ranked generally as one of the safest financiers and most sagacious business men in central Illinois. If success is to be measured by results he must be regarded as an eminently successful man, for not only his individual affairs, but all the enterprises he has organized and promoted in Pontiac and elsewhere have prospered even beyond his predictions and the expectations of those he enlisted in these various undertakings. His active connection with so many projects, both of a public and private nature, most of which contributing to the material advancement of his county and city, marks Mr. Myers as one of the useful and prominent citizens of Livingston county.

David S. Myers was born February 10, 1858, on a farm near Russellville, Ohio, and is now, July, 1900, only in the early maturity of intellectual and physical manhood. He inherited much of the vigor of his constitution and force of character from his ancestors, who were people of reputation and intelligence, conspicuous in the pioneer history of Ohio. He is the son of William and Margaret Myers, both natives of Ohio, the former being born March 22, 1814, at Russellville, and the latter in 1823 at Georgetown. This lady, who was a woman of practical merit and mental attainments, was the daughter of Ebenezer Moore, a substantial and influential citizen of Brown county, Ohio, where he resided all his life as a prosperous farmer and useful member of the community. His first political affiliations were with the Whigs, but later the progressive principles of the Republican party appealed to his sympathies and won his ardent support. As a girl Margaret had what she afterward considered the rare distinction of being the schoolmate and studying the same lessons with an unpretentious lad who was destined to become the most famous soldier of his time, General U. S. Grant, the Grant and Moore families being neighbors.

Francis Myers, grandfather of D. S. Myers, was among the earliest settlers of southern Ohio, actively assisting in the development of the county, and, together with his family, resolutely undergoing all the toil and privations that were assumed by those

D. S. MYERS.

devoted pioneers who blazed the way and smoothed the path for the coming generations.

William Myers, father of D. S. Myers, was in many respects a remarkable man. He passed the largest portion of his life in Ohio, his native state, where he achieved the noteworthy record of having taught school uninterruptedly for forty years. The entire course of his life was regulated and directed by his love of humanity, his sense of justice and his sympathy with the oppressed, and he was one of those dauntless spirits, who, known as Abolitionists, were the vanguard of that grand movement which resulted in the extinction of slavery within the borders of the United States. His home was one of the stations on the "Underground Railway," which was the significant name of a secret byway over which fugitive slaves were assisted and hurried from the yoke of bondage to the blessings of liberty. He was suspected and his life often endangered, but no intimidation could swerve him from his convictions of right. William Myers had been a Whig, but the noble mission of the abolition of slavery proclaimed by the Republican party induced him to pledge his voice and vote to that organization. For a time but two Republican votes were recorded in his township, one of which was his own. He enjoyed the distinction that few could claim of having cast his first presidential vote for William Henry Harrison and his last for that president's grandson, Benjamin Herrison. William Myers was a man of culture in book knowledge as well as of practical intelligence in the affairs of life, being a close observer and a clear thinker, with distinct though liberal views on all the political and social problems of the time. He was everywhere honored for his excellent qualities of head and heart and universally respected for his unyielding fidelity to principle. He resided on his farm until 1888, when his son induced his father and mother to come to Pontiac and make their home with him, and he contributed to their comfort and the serenity of their declining years until death closed their eyes in eternal slumber. After a life seldom equalled in its steadfast purpose of uplifting his race, William Myers died in March, 1896, and was followed a year later by his worthy helpmate, a loyal wife, devoted mother and sympathetic friend. Both lived as exemplary Christians, being until death members of the Presbyterian church.

The boyhood and early manhood of David S. Myers was passed upon his father's farm, where he formed habits of industry, a fixed purpose in life and stability of character, and in the district schools where he acquired the elementary principles of education, and under the vigilant eye of his father, the most effective training that any boy could receive. To prepare himself for the profession of teaching he attended different normal schools in southern Ohio and so improved his advantages that he soon qualified and was called to take charge of schools, first in Kentucky and then in Ohio. In 1883 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, a movement upon which all his later successes appear to hinge. Here he engaged in teaching for nearly two years in Owego and Saunemin townships, with the most satisfactory results. Going to Chicago he entered a real estate office, where he diligently applied his time for a year, familiarizing himself with the details and acquiring much valuable knowledge of real estate transactions. Returning to Livingston county he, with N. Q. Tanquary, opened the real estate office

of Tanquary & Myers in Pontiac, an arrangement which continued in force until 1889, when Mr. Tanquary's withdrawal dissolved the firm, since which time Mr. Myers has conducted an extensive real estate business independently, always beneficially to his patrons and satisfactory to himself. During the years following 1888 several additions to the city of Pontiac, owned by Mr. Myers, were platted and opened to market. By inviting buyers who improved the property and became actual residents, he has promoted the growth of the city in wealth and population and thereby enhanced the value of all real estate, stimulated business and increased the general prosperity. The first project of this kind in which he was interested, known as Camp's addition, comprised sixteen acres of eligible lots and is now the most desirable residence portion of the city. A second addition to this tract has since been opened. Myers' first, second, third, fourth and fifth additions have also been platted, all of which have their attractions and in all of which lots are being rapidly disposed of to home builders, many of whom he has assisted in their improvements. At this time, July, 1900, there are but two other additions on the market, and in one of these, the Riverside addition, near the shoe factory, he holds an interest. In 1899 Myers sold thirty thousand dollars worth of vacant lots, in his various additions to Pontiac, which not only attests his ability as a real estate dealer, but is substantial evidence of the remarkable growth and improvement of the city. For the past ten years Mr. Myers has been interested in drainage and reclaiming extensive tracts of swamp lands in Livingston, Lee, Henry and Bureau counties, in Illinois, and La Porte county, Indiana, and is the owner of a large amount of very valuable and highly productive land in each of these counties.

Mr. Myers does not believe that a city can become permanently prosperous without productive industries employing skilled labor. Hence he has encouraged such enterprises in Pontiac, and was one of the founders, as well as the first stockholder, and is still a director, in the Pontiac Shoe Manufacturing Company, one of the most extensive and prosperous plants of this kind in the United States, affording employment to more than three hundred persons, disbursing for its pay roll more than one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars annually and an annual product valued at nearly one million dollars. In 1899 Mr. Myers became interested in the Allen Candy Company, which was incorporated with a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars. He was chosen as one of the directors and the company is now in successful operation. Mr. Myers was the chief promoter of the organization of the Pontiac State Bank, which was incorporated and opened for business in February, 1899. He was the larest stockholder and was elected president, which position he still fills acceptably to patrons and to the best interests of the bank. Under his able management, assisted by an efficient board of directors, comprising some of the most capable business men of Pontiac, the Pontiac State Bank was a success from its inception, and is recognized as one of the solid financial institutions of central Illinois. The bank occupies elegantly appointed rooms in the corner of the new Sterry block, which were especially designed for that purpose.

The Pontiac Chautauqua Association is the pride and boast of every citizen, and has been popular as well as prosperous from its first assembly. Mr. Myers actively pro-

moted its organization and has since been one of its directors. In 1899 its earnings were fifty-five per cent. on its stock. He rendered valuable aid in founding the public library, and purchased, at a liberal price, land donated by Mr. Babcock, besides contributing generously to the library fund. The township high school was another object of his generous public spirit, donating the grounds in the center of which stands the imposing school building.

Mr. Myers has always been an interested student of state and national affairs, and is well informed on all the public questions of the day. Politically, he is an avowed Republican of the most pronounced type. His first presidential vote was given to General Garfield in 1880. He has participated actively in county and city politics and rendered valuable assistance to his party. In 1892 he was selected as councilman from the first ward, and while acting in that capacity advocated the system of sewerage and adoption of water works which marked the beginning of an era of city improvements. In 1897 he was elected mayor of the city, his administration being one of the most important and successful in its benefits to the city in the history of Pontiac, including the removal of the unsightly raised sidewalks and bringing the streets and sidewalks to a uniform grade. From June, 1898, to June, 1900, he served as chairman of the Republican county central committee and brought to that position the same energy and sagacity that he exercised so effectively in other affairs. As a prominent and active Republican Mr. Myers is well known to the leaders throughout the state.

Mr. Myers is a man of keen perceptions, almost unerring in his judgment of men and affairs and of the very first order of executive ability. In his methods of thought and action he is very deliberative, weighing every word before it is uttered and measuring every step before it is taken. He is quiet and self-possessed, and he turns off transactions involving tens of thousands of dollars with less palaver than many men would require to consummate the most trifling transaction. The elements that contribute to his unexampled successes are undoubtedly his self-evident honesty and sincerity, which invite confidence, the clear manner in which he presents a proposition, his excellent judgment in making investments and his exceptional ability in organizing and maturing extensive enterprises. He is unselfish in his success, for every step in his prosperity has been marked by some advantage to his city and county. As an example of what may be accomplished by a well-balanced, energetic and ambitious young man, dependent absolutely upon his own efforts, the career of Mr. Myers is invaluable.

Although an intensely busy man, and while engaged in business oblivious to every distraction, Mr. Myers, recognizing all the obligations of citizenship and society, has a very agreeable social side to his nature. He has a refined home, one of the most elegant residences in Livingston county, which is located on Grove street, overlooking the Vermillion river, and has a cultured family. On February 9, 1887, David S. Myers and Miss Louise Catherine Slyder were united in marriage. Mrs. Myers is a lady of acknowledged refinement, supplemented by a practical, womanly disposition and a cheerful nature. She was born in Livingston county, one of ten children, her father being Simon F. Slyder, a prominent citizen of the same county. Four children came to bless this union, two of whom are living, Diller

Slyder and Anna Louise. The family are regular attendants of and liberal contributors to the maintenance of the Methodist Episcopal church of Pontiac. The passing years have justified the wisdom of Mr. Myers in the choice of a bride, for their domestic relations are very happy and their home life what may be truly termed ideal.

CHARLES L. ROMBERGER.

Prominent among the enterprising, progressive and successful men of Dwight is the subject of this sketch, who as a lawyer and business man has been prominently identified with its interests for several years. His life history most happily illustrates what may be attained by faithful and continued effort in carrying out an honest purpose. Activity and energy have been the crowning points of his success, and his connection with various enterprises have been of decided advantage to his community, promoting its material welfare in no uncertain manner.

Mr. Romberger was born in a log cabin in Wyanet, Bureau county, Illinois, June 12, 1862. His father, L. D. Romberger, was born in Pennsylvania, April 23, 1831, of German ancestry, and was left an orphan when only a year old. At the age of eight he started out in life for himself and served an apprenticeship to the tinner's trade. He was about twenty-three years of age when he removed to Wyanet, Illinois, where he was married, March 1, 1860, to Francisca L. Weaver, who was also born in Pennsylvania, February 20, 1839, and had come west with her parents, who were engaged in the hotel business. Mr. Romberger was engaged in merchandising in Wyanet for a few years and later followed farming for two years, after which he moved to Princeton, Illinois, where he was engaged in the mercantile business until his health failed, in 1880, when he sold out and has since devoted his attention to bee culture, having one of the largest apiaries in the United States. He has always been a stanch Republican in politics, but never an aspirant for office, though he is now serving as justice of the peace. Of his three children, one died in infancy; Emma L. is now the wife of Frank H. Hoffman, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Charles L. completes the family.

The primary education of our subject was obtained in the public schools of Princeton, and he was graduated from the high school of that city at the age of seventeen years. He then entered the law department of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated at the age of nineteen and received the degree of LL. B., March 20, 1882. He was not permitted to practice, however, until he attained his majority, when the state of Michigan forwarded his certificate, and he was admitted to practice at the bar of Illinois, September 24, 1883. After his graduation he located at Ottawa, Illinois, and entered the office of Mayo & Widmer, prominent attorneys of that place, with whom he remained for fifteen months.

In 1884, at the suggestion of Hon. Walter Reeves, now member of congress from this district, Mr. Romberger came to Dwight and opened a law office over the People's Bank, being alone in business until 1887, when he formed a partnership with John C. Hetzel, a real estate and insurance agent, under the firm name of Hetzel & Romberger. In 1891 he bought out his partner and continued alone until November, 1895, when he

sold a half interest in the business to Frank L. Smith, the firm being known as Romberger & Smith. Their specialty is real estate and real estate work, although they do a private banking business for accommodation of friends and acquaintances. Without question the firm does one of the largest loan and real estate businesses in central Illinois, this fact being conceded by all other firms in their line. At present they are extensively interested in Mississippi and Louisiana lands. Their holdings in the latter state are timber lands, which the firm purchased with the view of enhancing their value, and in January, 1900, they sold one tract of twelve thousand acres in Madison parish. This is desirable property, being accessible to steamboats and the Vicksburg, Shreveport & Pacific Railroad. The Mississippi land is in the Delta country and is also covered with hardwood lumber, principally oak, pecan and gum. When cleared this will become excellent cotton land. Besides this property the firm has about fifteen hundred acres of fine farming land in Lee county, Illinois, which is well improved and under a high state of cultivation, and also operates largely in Iowa and Indiana lands. Since coming to Dwight Mr. Romberger has had complete charge of the Keeley Company's legal business, and is attorney for the estate of Dr. Leslie E. Keeley. He is also local attorney for the Chicago & Alton Railroad. He does very little court work, however, his entire legal business being confined to office practice. He is interested in the Keeley Institute, located at No. 2803 Locust street, St. Louis, Missouri, being a partner of Dr. J. E. Blaine, who for eight years was chief of the medical staff of the Leslie E. Keeley Company of Dwight.

On the 7th of October, 1884, Mr. Romberger married Miss Nellie M. Ensign, a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of Edward H. and Martha S. Ensign. By this union three children were born, the oldest, a daughter, died in infancy. Louise E. died very suddenly of tonsilitis, November 2, 1899, at the age of twelve years. Emma T., aged eleven years, is attending school in Dwight.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Romberger are members of the Congregational church, and he is also a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity. In 1884 he was made a Master Mason in Livingston Lodge, No. 371, A. F. & A. M., of Dwight, of which he is now past master, and received the higher degrees in Orient Chapter, No. 31, R. A. M., and Blaney Commandery, No. 5, K. T., of Morris, Illinois; Dwight Chapter, No. 166, O. E. S., of which he is past worthy patron; is a member of the Oriental Consistory and Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine, both of Chicago. He is now a member of Wilmington Chapter, No. 142, R. A. M., of which he is past high priest, and Joliet Commandery, No. 4, K. T., of which he is senior warden. Since old enough to vote Mr. Romberger has affiliated with the Republican party, and in 1892 was elected president of the board of trustees of the village of Dwight on the ticket advocating public improvements. He has always taken the lead in anything tending to advance the interests of his town and worked hard to get the sewerage system, electric light and water works adopted and cement sidewalks laid. Therefore during his administration there were more improvements made than at any other time, and he is justly numbered among Dwight's most progressive and public-spirited citizens. He is emphatically a man of enterprise, positive character, indomitable

energy, strict integrity and liberal views, and is thoroughly identified in feeling with the growth and prosperity of his city.

NATHAN S. GRANDY.

Nathan S. Grandy, deceased, was numbered among the honored pioneers of Livingston county, where he located when this region was wild and unimproved. In the work of development he took an active part in the early days and aided in opening up the country to civilization. As the years passed his faithfully performed duties of citizenship and his interest in the welfare and progress of the community never abated. Becoming widely and favorably known he made many friends, and his death was a loss to the entire community.

Mr. Grandy was born October 6, 1816, in Phantom township, Addison county, Vermont, where he grew to manhood, and there worked at the carpenter's trade, as a manufacturer of sash, doors and blinds. He first married a Miss Kent, who died in Illinois a few years after coming here. After his marriage he came to Illinois, arriving in Chicago about the 1st of May, 1850, when only thirty miles of railroad extended from that city toward Galena, and a few miles had been built in this direction, there being not more than one hundred miles in the state. From Chicago Mr. Grandy went to Alton, a part of the journey being made by way of the Illinois river, and the whole trip occupying over a week. He first located in Kane, Greene county, Illinois, where he had a brother living, and there he engaged in farming for a time.

While a resident of Greene county, Mr. Grandy was married, February 12, 1854, to Miss Harriet E. Christy, a native of Lawrence county, Illinois, and a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Dennison) Christy, pioneers of that county, where their marriage was celebrated. The father, who was a native of Ohio and a farmer by occupation, removed to Greene county soon after the birth of Mrs. Grandy and bought a tract of land in Kane, where he spent the remainder of his life. In religious belief he was a Baptist.

To Mr. and Mrs. Grandy were born eight children, namely: T. E., a real estate dealer of Pontiac, married Elizabeth L. Mason; Harriet A., at home with her mother; Clara is the wife of Albert G. Mason, of Pontiac, and they have four children living, Ollie, Leonard L., Alice and Cress; Charles E., who lives on a farm three miles and a half east of Pontiac, married Susan Foster, of Owego township, and they have two children, Mabel E. and Victor J.; George W., a resident of St. John's, Kansas, married Jennie Dudley, of Missouri, and they have one child, Pearl; William A., a lumberman of Mason City, Illinois, married Emma Antrim, and they have one child, Margery; Henry lives on the home farm and married Miss Tillie Hill; Mary J. is the wife of W. C. Young, a farmer living three miles east of Pontiac, and they have three children, Edith, Marshall and Lewis.

In 1856 Mr. and Mrs. Grandy came to Livingston county and took up their residence in Owego township, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres, on which was standing a small cabin, 14x18 feet, made of rough slabs from the sawmill set up on end and the cracks filled with clay. The floor was of ash and oak boards about ten inches wide hewed down, while the roof was made of real old-fashioned clapboards split

from oak timber. In this rude dwelling the family lived for over a year. With the exception of a few acres the farm was unbroken. On taking up his residence here Mr. Grandy at once turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his farm. The first winter he constructed a stable by putting forked poles into the ground, laying other poles across these and covering them with brush and then with hay, while the sides were also banked up with hay. This comfortably sheltered his stock until a better barn could be built. He fenced his land and placed acre after acre under the plow until all was highly cultivated. In 1861 a more substantial and comfortable residence was built, much of the timber being taken from his own wood lot, two miles from his home. Men were making the sills for the new house when the news came of the firing upon Fort Sumter. The house was completed that summer and is still standing. A large part of the finished lumber used in its construction was bought at sixty dollars per thousand and paid for with corn at ten cents per bushel. This had to be shelled, sacked and hauled to Pontiac. Mr. Grandy used a small two-hole corn sheller, run by horse power.

When he located in this county he could travel in a northeasterly direction from his home and find not a house nor a fence until within two miles of Kankakee, while his nearest trading places were Pontiac and Fairbury. Coal was almost unknown and was very high when obtainable. Several times during the first four years spent here, the Grandy home came very nearly being destroyed by the prairie fires. Mrs. Grandy once saved the house with a pail of water and her mop. They added to the farm by additional purchase as their financial resources increased, but in 1872 sold it and bought two hundred and four acres in Pontiac township, one mile from the court house, which Mrs. Grandy still owns, and on which the family moved that year. Our subject made all of the improvements upon the place, including the erection of a fine house, a good barn and substantial outbuildings. He was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1877, when he was injured by a saw, after which he practically lived retired until his death, being blind the last two years of his life.

Mr. Grandy was a Democrat in politics and took an active and prominent part in the public affairs of his time. While a resident of Owego township he served as school treasurer, assessor and justice of the peace, and was known throughout the county as Squire Grandy. In Pontiac township he served as road commissioner some years and took an active part in building the bridges and improving the roads of his locality, assisting in the construction of the fine iron bridge three miles west of Pontiac. In 1868 he was appointed county commissioner by the board of supervisors to go over the county and reappraise the swamp lands, to which business he devoted one whole summer, spending nearly all the time driving over the county. He was one of the early members of the Baptist church and later attended services at Avoca, where a church was built for the use of any denomination, this being much nearer his home. After his removal to Pontiac he united with the Baptist church in that city. He died on his farm, one mile east of Pontiac, June 26, 1890, honored and respected by all who knew him. Throughout his career of continued and far-reaching usefulness his duties were performed with the greatest care, and his personal honor and integrity were without blemish.

Mrs. Grandy still survives her husband and now makes her home in Pontiac, where she has a lovely home at No. 317 East Howard street. She has only lived here a year, though owning the place for some time. She was always a true helpmeet to her husband, aiding him in every possible way, and is a most estimable lady, beloved and respected by all who know her on account of her sterling worth and many excellencies of character.

JOHN W. HOOVER.

John W. Hoover, whose home is at No. 215 East Livingston street, Pontiac, is one of the most public-spirited and enterprising citizens of that place. He is a native of Illinois, born in Putnam county, March 9, 1840, and is a son of Henry Mann and Sarah (Hunt) Hoover. The father was born in Pennsylvania, June 10, 1808, and in 1838 came to Illinois, locating in Bureau county, where he engaged in farming until 1848 and then went to California, crossing the plains with an ox team. The following four years were passed in prospecting and mining, during which time he accumulated considerable property, but when just ready to return to his family in Illinois he met with a violent death and his hard-earned treasure was taken from him. His widow is still living at the age of eighty-eight years, and resides with her daughter in Minonk, Woodford county, Illinois. Only three of her ten children survive. Two sons, George H. and Julius G., were soldiers of the Civil war, and died in Tennessee during their service.

Our subject remained with his mother on the home farm in Bureau county until 1857, when they removed to Livingston county and located in Nebraska township, where he engaged in agricultural pursuits until the breaking out of the Civil war, in 1861, when he enlisted in the Third Illinois Cavalry, Company K, for three years. He participated in a number of battles in Missouri and Arkansas, including the engagement at Pea Ridge, where he was wounded. He went to the gulf, was stationed at New Orleans for a time, and was in the sieges of Port Hudson and Vicksburg. He was at the latter place at the time of the first repulse of Sherman, and remained there until the surrender to Grant. He was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, as commissary sergeant, having held that position two years.

After his discharge Mr. Hoover returned to Livingston county and again engaged in farming in Nebraska township. The sudden death of his father had left the family in very straightened circumstances and placed a very heavy burden on the shoulders of our subject, but he early displayed that determination and grit which have carried him forward to a successful life. He was devoted to his mother and toiled early and late that she might have the comforts of life that she had been accustomed to before the death of her husband. He continued to engage in farming until the fall of 1870, when he was elected sheriff of Livingston county on the Democratic ticket and moved to Pontiac. He filled that office for one term with credit to himself and to the general satisfaction of the public, and at its close embarked in general merchandising, which he carried on until his store and its contents were destroyed by fire, July 4, 1874. Although he lost almost everything he possessed, he was not cast down or crushed by the misfortune, but with characteristic energy he immediately purchased another stock

J. W. HOOVER.

MRS. JOHN W. HOOVER.

of goods and continued business until 1897, being associated with Wilson Pittenger some years, and afterward with W. S. Sims for about five years, the firm name being Hoover & Sims. He was then alone in business until selling out, in 1897.

Mr. Hoover was married, December 31, 1868, to Miss Mary E. Van Doren, of this county, a daughter of Hilyard and Eliza (Thompson) Van Doren. Her father was born in New Jersey, in 1808, and was six years old when he removed to Ohio with his parents. His father, John Van Doren, also a native of New Jersey, conducted a hotel near Clarksville, Clinton county, Ohio, for many years. Throughout the greater part of his life Mrs. Hoover's father followed the carpenter's trade, but after coming to Livingston county, Illinois, engaged in farming and stock raising in Nebraska township. He was school trustee for many years and also filled the office of collector and supervisor for some years. He helped build the first school house in his township, advancing money for the work until the district could reimburse him, and he organized the first Sunday school within its borders, services being held at his home until the school house and church were built. In 1885 he retired from active life and moved to Pontiac, where he died September 1, 1898. His wife had departed this life February 14, 1892. Mrs. Hoover is the youngest of their seven children. William T., the oldest, married Julia Smith in 1855, and is a prominent contractor and builder of Pontiac. Frank M. and Luther were both members of Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and the latter was drowned in the Cumberland river in Tennessee after serving one year. Frank M. married Nettie Nickerson and resides on the old home farm in Nebraska township. Mr. and Mrs. Hoover have a family of four children, namely: Ella I., born in Pontiac, was married, May 10, 1898, to Halbert Opperman, a grocer of Pontiac; Helen P. has for the past three years been head bookkeeper at the Pontiac Shoe manufactury; Edna R. is at home, and Maude W. is a student in the high school of Pontiac.

In 1898 Mr. Hoover was elected supervisor of Pontiac township, and his services gave such universal satisfaction that in the spring of 1900 he was re-elected, being the only Democrat elected on the township ticket, which speaks well for his personal popularity and the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He has been fire marshal of the city for the past twenty-five years, and was a member of the department for some years before. It has been his constant study to improve the department and the time he has devoted to that work has been well spent, for his efforts have been crowned with success. At present a new city hall and engine house is being erected. Mr. Hoover is an honored member of T. Lyle Dickey post, G. A. R., and attends and supports the Methodist Episcopal church.

GEORGE Z. FLAGLER.

Prominent among the citizens of Dwight who have witnessed the marvelous development of Livingston county in the last half-century, and who have, by honest toil and industry, succeeded in acquiring a competence and are now spending the sunset of life in quiet and retirement, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch.

Mr. Flagler was born in Herkimer, New York, June 4, 1828, and was reared there until ten years of age, when he removed to Ohio with his parents, Philip and Nancy (Dygert) Flagler, also natives of New York. His paternal grandfather, Zachariah Flagler, was born in France, and on his emigration to America settled in Dutchess county, New York, where, in the midst of the wilderness, he developed a farm and spent the remainder of his life. He reared a family of eleven children, ten sons and one daughter, of whom Philip was fifth in order of birth.

On reaching manhood Philip Flagler removed to Herkimer county, New York, becoming one of its early settlers, and there he married Nancy Dygert, a daughter of William Dygert, who emigrated from Germany to the United States at an early day. After his marriage Mr. Flagler conducted a meat market in Frankfort, Herkimer county, until our subject was ten years of age, and then moved to Middlebury, Portage county, Ohio, going by way of the Erie canal to Buffalo, by lake to Cleveland, by canal to Akron, Ohio, and from there across the country by wagon to Middlebury, where he worked at the shoemaker's trade five years. He then returned to New York by the same route, this time locating in Dutchess county, where he followed farming until a few years prior to his death, when he sold his farm and moved to Rochester, New York. There he lived retired until called to his final rest, at the age of seventy years. The mother of our subject had died many years previous, leaving six children, who reached man and womanhood, namely: George Z., Catherine, Walter, Albert, William and Oscar, all still living with the exception of Walter. Catherine is the wife of Philip Miller, of Dwight, Illinois. For his second wife the father married Katherine Wright, by whom he had one daughter, Annie.

George Z. Flagler received his education in the schools of Portage county, Ohio, and Dutchess county, New York, and remained at home with his father until after his marriage. On the 27th of September, 1848, when twenty-one years of age, he married Phebe Jane Clarkson, then sixteen. They met at the village school in Stormville, New York, and the friendship there formed soon ripened into a love that has never died out, for they are still lovers, the same as in the days long gone by. Mrs. Flagler was born in Dutchess county, of which her parents, Egbert and Maria (Jacox) Clarkson, were also natives, while her paternal grandfather, Charles Clarkson, was a native of England, having emigrated to this country at an early day. For many years her father followed farming in Dutchess county, but in the fall of 1856 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, where he lived retired until his death, at the age of sixty-three years. His wife died at the age of seventy-three. In their family were four children, William, Hamilton, Phebe Jane and Mary Elizabeth, but Mrs. Flagler is the only one now living. To our subject and his wife were born three children, namely: (1) Eugene, a resident of Dwight, married Letty Potter, and they have two children: Stella, wife of Eberett Lewis, a jeweler of Dwight, by whom she has one child, Harland; and Louise. (2) John W., an invalid residing in Dwight, married Laura Lee, and they have one child, Helen. (3) George N., who has succeeded his father in the lumber business, married Letty Saltmarsh, and they have two children, Eddie and Mattie.

After his marriage Mr. Flagler remained with his father a year, but determining to

engage in business for himself, he rented a farm of one hundred and seven acres in Dutchess county, New York, which he successfully operated for three years. Selling out in the east he came to Illinois in 1855, and after spending ten days at Joliet proceeded to Dwight, Livingston county, where he hired out to a Mr. Spencer, whose farm included the present home of our subject. After working for him one year he was variously employed for a time, and then turned his attention to the carpenter's trade. One of the first houses which he built is the one he is now living in, it being situated on a part of the old Spencer farm and is one of the most beautiful places in Dwight, surrounded by four acres of well-kept grounds. Here Mr. Flagler located in 1899. The first house that he owned in Dwight is still standing. He continued to follow the carpenter's trade for several years, and in 1874 became interested in the lumber business, which he carried on alone for three years, when he formed a partnership with Thomas Sims, under the name of Flagler & Sims. Three years later this was dissolved and Zed Johnson purchased an interest in the business, which was conducted under the firm name of Flagler & Johnson for three years and a half. From that time on he was alone in business until 1897, when he was succeeded by his son, George N., who still carries it on, while our subject is practically living retired, though he still continues to look after his property interests in Dwight, which include a number of houses.

Mr. Flagler has been prominently identified with almost the entire growth and development of Dwight, as when he located there there were only six houses in the place. During the first year of his residence here he and his wife, with another family, occupied a little shanty, 16x24 feet. In 1856 he and William Clarkson each built a house, the first that were erected that year. One Sunday the two men went out about three miles in the country and got some young basswood trees, which they brought to town on their backs and planted, these being the first trees set out in Dwight, as the place at that time was flat prairie land, unadorned by trees or shrubs. Mr. Flagler helped organize the village and has aided materially in its growth and building, assisting in the erection of most of the older dwellings of the place. He helped build the Presbyterian church, which was the first house of worship erected in Dwight, and later, as a contractor, built the Methodist Episcopal church. He was one of the first trustees of the village, being elected on a temperance ticket, and was a member of the village board four terms. By his ballot he has always supported the men and measures of the Democratic party at national elections, but in local affairs, when no issue is involved, votes for the man whom he believes best qualified to fill the office. Socially he is a member of Livingston lodge, No. 371, F. & A. M., and Wilmington Chapter, No. 142, R. A. M. During their long residence in Dwight Mr. and Mrs. Flagler have made a host of warm friends, have gained the confidence and respect of all who know them, and as honored pioneers and representative citizens are certainly deserving of prominent mention in a work of this kind.

STEPHEN A. GOODMAN.

Stephen A. Goodman, the efficient engineer of the Dwight Electric Light Company and a highly respected citizen of

Dwight, Illinois, was born in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, December 26, 1851, and is a son of James J. and Catherine (Numen) Goodman, also natives of Pennsylvania. By trade the father was a wagonmaker and bridge carpenter, and during his residence in the Keystone state followed bridge building on railroads and canals. In 1867 he brought his family to Illinois and located on a farm in Dwight township, two miles southwest of the town of Dwight, making his home there for two years, at the end of which time he took up his residence in town, where his death occurred, in 1884, and where his wife is still living. In their family were ten children, namely: Anna, wife of W. H. Watson, a conductor on the Pennsylvania Railroad and a resident of Altoona, Pennsylvania; Mattie, widow of G. W. Stewart and a resident of Union Furnace, Pennsylvania; Stephen A., our subject; Emma, wife of George Taylor, a farmer and dairyman of Dwight township; Alfred, a farmer of Grundy county, Illinois; James, a conductor on the Chicago & Alton Railroad; George, who is employed in the round house at Dwight; Mary, twin of George and deceased wife of John Camerorn, of Ono, Willow county, Nebraska; Nora, wife of Frank Phole, of Dwight; and Bruce, an engineer on the Chicago & Alton Railroad.

The boyhood and youth of Stephen A. Goodman were mainly passed in Pennsylvania, and at the age of fifteen he entered the Mill Creek furnace shops to learn the blacksmith and machinist's trades, his father being then engaged in the hotel business at Mill Creek. He was sixteen years of age when the family came to Illinois, and for a time he worked at his trade in Dwight. Subsequently he accepted a position as engineer and general assistant with the firm of Heffenbaugh & Rutan, but his first permanent position as engineer was in the old stone mill of Hahn & Siegert, where he was employed two years. He next entered the service of the Chicago & Alton Railroad in the round house at Dwight, and later was fireman on the Streator branch of that road and served the company until 1893. He spent two years as fireman on the Pennsylvania Railroad, running between Altoona and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In November, 1896, he accepted his present position with the Dwight Electric Light Company, and has since filled it in a most capable and satisfactory manner.

On the 22d of September, 1877, at Dwight, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Goodman and Miss Belle Goodspeed, a native of Grundy county, Illinois, and a daughter of George R. and Emily (Starkey) Goodspeed. Her father gave up his life for his country as a soldier of the Civil war. During the last ten years of her life Mrs. Goodspeed made her home with our subject and there died March 31, 1897. Mrs. Goodman died January 12, 1893, and of the three children born of that union, Emma died at the age of four years and Hattie at the age of eleven. Charles is still living and is with his father. Mr. Goodman was again married, in Peoria, Illinois, April 20, 1897, his second union being with Miss Agnes McCloskey, a native of Blair county, Pennsylvania. They have a pleasant home in Dwight, erected by him in 1882.

In political affairs Mr. Goodman supports the Democratic party. While a resident of Altoona, Pennsylvania, he joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and now affiliates with Dwight Lodge, No. 513, of which he is past noble grand. He is also a member of Pacific Encampment, No. 126, and was elected and installed chief patriarch,

but resigned on account of his night work, which occupies his time to the exclusion of everything else. He is a thorough and skilled machinist and is a highly respected and honored citizen of Dwight. He was for five years a member of the Illinois state guards and was honorably discharged.

N. M. AND TRUMAN M. KELLOGG.

These brothers, who are numbered among the representative citizens of Pontiac township, Livingston county, own and operate a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres on section 8, pleasantly located on Wolf creek, within three miles of the city of Pontiac. They are natives of Oneida county, New York, the former born near Utica June 29, 1829, the latter October 7, 1835, and belong to an old colonial family of English origin, which was founded in this country by two brothers, who were among the pioneers of Connecticut. Our subjects' paternal grandfather, Truman Kellogg, was a native of that state and a pioneer of Oneida county, New York, where he located in 1790. There he cleared and improved a farm in the midst of the wilderness, making it his home throughout the remainder of his life. The father, who also bore the name of Truman, was born in that county, in 1795, and on reaching manhood married Malinda Marsh, also a native of Oneida county. He was a farmer by occupation and lived on the old Kellogg homestead throughout life, dying there May 17, 1867. He survived his wife only a few weeks, as she died March 3, 1867. In their family were four children, two sons and two daughters, but only the former are now living.

In the county of their nativity the brothers passed their boyhood and youth, being provided with good educational advantages in both common and select schools. In 1852 Truman M. went to Chicago, where he entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, in the engineer department, as a rodman, and for twenty years was employed in the general office of the civil engineer for the Illinois Central Railroad Company at that city, being promoted for successful service from rodman to division engineer, and as such he superintended the construction of the Lake Shore harbor. N. M. Kellogg remained at home with his parents until their deaths, having charge of the farm. In 1868 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased the farm in Pontiac township where the brothers now reside. They located thereon in 1871, and have since devoted their time and energies to the further improvement and cultivation of the place, converting it into one of the most desirable farms of its size in the county. They follow general farming and have engaged extensively in feeding and shipping stock, fattening from six to ten car-loads of cattle and hogs annually. To this branch of their business they have devoted considerable attention for the past fifteen years, and recently have made a specialty of the breeding and raising of good roadster horses of the Hamiltonian and other standard bred stock. Success has attended their well-directed efforts and they are now numbered among the most substantial men of the community in which they live.

Politically the Kellogg brothers have been life-long Democrats, and N. M. has served as highway commissioner for fifteen years, but neither have cared for official honors, preferring to give their undivided atten-

tion to their extensive business interests. They are men of keen perception and sound judgment and their success in life is due to their own well-directed efforts, so that they deserve to be prominently mentioned among the leading and representative business men of this county. Fraternally, Truman M. is a member of the Masonic lodge of Pontiac, having been made a Master Mason some years ago.

CHARLES H. LONG, M. D.

The world has little use for the misanthrope. The universal truth of brotherhood is widely recognized, also that he serves God best who serves his fellow men. There is no profession or line of business that calls for greater self sacrifice or more devoted attention than the medical profession, and the successful physician is he, who through love of his fellow men gives his time and attention to the relief of human suffering. Dr. Long is one of the ablest representatives of this noble calling successfully engaged in practice in Pontiac, Illinois.

The Doctor was born in Dimmick township, La Salle county, this state, May 14, 1850, a son of Archibald and Adeline (Leigh) Long. The father was born in Gallipolis, Gallia county, Ohio, in October, 1825, a son of Archibald and Catherine (Keller) Long. The grandfather was born near Wheeling, West Virginia, September 24, 1791, and was one of a large family of children left orphans at an early age, and who were thrown upon the world to make their own way with little educational advantages. He managed, however, to acquire much varied information, which, with untiring energy, he ever put to use for the uplifting of his fellow men. After drifting about through Tennessee, Georgia and North Carolina during his boyhood he was finally married, in October, 1813, and settled in Gallipolis, Ohio, where most of his family were born and where he acquired some property. He also secured the maintenance of select schools in the county, and early became a leader and exhorter in the Methodist Episcopal church, and afterward a licensed preacher. He spent a few years in Indiana, and then, in order to secure homes for his children, now grown, he came to Illinois, locating first in the military tract, near Knoxville, Knox county, in 1834. He built the first mill in that section and opened his house for church and school purposes, there being neither in his locality. He regularly filled appointments to preach for miles around, and our subject now has in his possession the parchment certificate given by Bishop Morris, in 1839, at his ordination as deacon. He soon secured the building of a church at Hermon, the expense of which was largly borne by himself. At camp meetings and revivals he was recongized as powerful in exhortation and prayer. It was at a meeting in his house that his son, Archibald, Jr., and Rev. M. L. Haney were converted. In 1849 he removed to La Salle county, and early the following year secured the organization of a church at La Salle, there having been no religious society there prior to that time. He resolved to build a house of worship and went about with his usual energy to accomplish this, hauling lumber, raising money and working on the building. While thus engaged he was exposed to the inclemency of the weather and contracted a disease that affected his lungs and eventually caused his death. His home was always the stopping place for all ministers, and he labored un-

tiringly for his church. He held most all the local offices, including those of school director and justice of the peace, and in his death the community realized that it had lost one of its most valued and useful citizens.

Archibald Long, Jr., the father of our subject, was reared on his father's farm near Knoxville, and received a good practical education in the select school conducted in his father's home. This was largely supplemented in later years by extensive reading and observation. He built the first sawmill at Knoxville and engaged in milling for some time. In early days before the grist-mill was built, the family hauled their grain to Chicago, a distance of two hundred miles. The early pioneers ground their cornmeal on stones. After building the mill the Long family sometimes rafted flour down the Mississippi river to St. Louis. In Knox county, Archibald Long, Jr., was married, in 1847, to Miss Adeline Leigh, a daughter of Robert Leigh, a veteran of the war of 1812, and an early settler of that county, where he followed farming until his death. Her paternal great-grandfather, Leigh, was private secretary to George III, of England, and for political reasons fled to the United States. He was the possessor of a large fortune, which the family never received. After his marriage, the Doctor's father engaged in farming in Dimmick township, La Salle county, and was one of the large land owners of his locality. Although he gave strict attention to his business affairs he never neglected his duties to his fellow men, and took a very active part in education and church work, ably seconding his father in the support of the feeble little church at La Salle. He was a member of the official board throughout life and after his father's death was its strongest mainstay for forty years. He was honored with all the township offices. He died in La Salle county, December 31, 1892, and the mother of our subject departed this life in 1856, leaving two children, the younger being Robert, now a resident of Koszta, Iowa.

Dr. Long began his education in the district schools near his boyhood home, and at the age of fifteen years entered the academic department of Wheaton College at Wheaton, Illinois, where he was a student for two years. In 1866 he entered the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, where he was graduated with the degree of B. S., in 1873, being president of the class organization during his senior year. In the meantime he had engaged in teaching schools, and after leaving college followed that profession for three years as principal at Mackinaw, Stanford and Homer, Illinois.

Having decided to make the practice of medicine his life work, Dr. Long matriculated at Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago, in 1875, and was graduated with the degree of M. D., at the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College in 1878. He is now the leading homeopathic physician of Pontiac, and enjoys a large general practice. He served as United States pension examiner under Presidents Hayes and Arthur, doing all the work in that line for the county, there being no pension board at the time. In 1880 he was elected coroner of Livingston county and served by re-election eight years, during which time he held the inquests made necessary by the terrible Chatsworth wreck when seventy-four Niagara excursionists lost their lives. He is an honored member of the Illinois Homeopathic Medical Association, of which he was provisional secretary

two terms, ending in May, 1899, and is also an active member of the Central Illinois Homeopathic Association. He is medical examiner for the Modern Woodmen of America at Pontiac.

Dr. Long has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Martha Veimont, who died March 20, 1884, leaving two children, who are still living, namely: Eva Mary, now attending the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, and Archibald V., at home. For his second wife he married Lida Sterry, daughter of C. W. Sterry, of Pontiac, and to them have been born two children: Christopher Sterry and Katherine. The family have a beautiful home at No. 304 East Water street, Pontiac.

From the start Dr. Long has served as secretary of the Pontiac Riverview Chautauqua Association, which is to-day one of the most successful organizations of the kind in the west, financially and otherwise, and he is also a trustee of the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington, and also trustee of the board of finance for the same institution. With such ancestry it is not strange that the Doctor takes a very active and prominent part in church work and has always been willing to contribute his share to any enterprise for the public good. He is one of the leading and influential members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Pontiac, and is now the oldest member of its official board in point of continuous service, having held some office for the past twenty-two years. After serving eight years as superintendent of the Sunday school, he resigned that position to become superintendent of the primary department, which has developed rapidly during the seven years he has been in charge, the enrollment at present being two hundred and fifty. He was also secretary of the Livingston county Sunday School Association seven years; was chairman of the executive committee a number of years; vice-president of the third Illinois district, and has been chairman of the finance committee a number of years. At the age of thirteen he was elected secretary of the Sunday school, which he attended, and has since been officially connected with Sunday school work. He was a lay delegate to the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, at Cleveland, in 1896, and at Chicago, in May, 1900, and for four years was president of the Lay Association of the central Illinois conference. He is also editor of the Pontiac Methodist, with which he has been connected from its beginning, in 1896. As a physician he ranks among the ablest, and as a citizen he stands deservedly high in public esteem, being honored and respected by all who know him.

AUSTIN GIBBONS.

Austin Gibbons, of Dwight, was born in county Mayo, Ireland, January 5, 1846, a son of Philip and Bridget (McDonald) Gibbons, also natives of that county. The father was born December 10, 1819, and continued to make his home in county Mayo until his emigration to America in March, 1851. For three years the family made their home in New York state and in 1854 came to Illinois, locating first in Kendall county and removing to Livingston county in 1865. Here the father purchased a half-section of land in Nevada township, which he operated eighteen years, and then moved to Chicago, where he has since made his home. He is highly respected and esteemed and is a de-

AUSTIN GIBBONS.

vout member of the Catholic church, to which his wife also belonged. She died in the fall of 1899, at the age of eighty years. In their family were nine children, all of whom are still living, namely: Mary, a resident of Chicago; Austin, our subject; Margaret, widow of Denslow Marsh and a resident of Pittsburg, Kansas; Ellen, of Chicago; John, of Barton county, Missouri; Philip, Jane, Sarah and Thomas, all of Chicago.

Our subject was only four years old when brought to this country by his parents and his education was begun in New York state, though the greater part of it was obtained in the schools of Kendall county, Illinois. At the age of twenty-two he started out in life for himself by learning the trade of bridge builder and carpenter, which he followed twelve years. During this time he made his home in Nevada township, Livingston county, and on retiring from that business, in 1877, he engaged in farming on section 2, that township, where he purchased eighty acres of land. To this he added one hundred and sixty acres in 1896, making a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he placed under a high state of cultivation. In connection with general farming he always gave considerable attention to stock raising, his specialty being Norman horses.

In 1897 Mr. Gibbons commenced buying grain for Edmund Mezger, of Dwight, and continued in his employ until that gentleman failed in business in March, 1898, when he entered the employ of William Pope, who then took the elevator, remaining with him until the fall of 1899, when Mr. Pope sold out to Merritt Brothers, of Dwight, by whom Mr. Gibbons has been retained as manager of the elevator. That fall he built a pleasant residence at the corner of Waupansie and North Clinton streets, Dwight, and in the spring of 1900 took up his residence there, having remained on his farm up to that time.

On the 6th of January, 1878, Mr. Gibbons married Miss Margaret Kane, a native of Wisconsin and a daughter of Robert and Ann Kane, of that state, where her father died a number of years ago. Her mother met her death in the tornado at St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1893. Mrs. Gibbons was their only child. Our subject and his wife have a family of five children: Nellie, now the wife of William Neville, a farmer of Good Farm township, Grundy county, Illinois, by whom she has one child, Frank; Frank, son of our subject and his father's assistant in the grain business in Dwight; and Annie, Philip and Sarah, students in the public schools of Dwight.

Religiously both Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons are members of the Catholic church of Dwight. He has always been a stanch supporter of the men and measures of the Democratic party and taken an active and prominent part in local politics for a number of years. He was assessor of Nevada township in 1871 and 1872 and served as supervisor of that township for more than twenty years, which office he filled continuously until the spring of 1900, when, owing to his removal to Dwight, the township was forced to seek another representative. His long retention in office plainly indicates his efficient service and the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow citizens. He was chairman of the board in 1897 and 1898 and was one of the special committee to oversee the building of the county house, which was built during his term at a cost of seventy-five thousand dollars. He was

chairman of the board of equalization for sixteen consecutive years and served on most of the committees, especially the more important ones. He was school treasurer for ten years prior to his removal to Dwight and the cause of education always found in him a faithful friend. In 1892 he was the Democratic candidate from his district for member of the state board of equalization and although he failed of election he succeeded in reducing the usual Republican majority from twenty-five hundred to five hundred, a fact which testifies strongly as to his personal popularity. At present writing he is the nominee of his party from the twentieth district as a member of the legislature. No man in his community is more highly respected or esteemed, and he has been called upon to settle a number of estates in Livingston, Will and Grundy counties, and is now in charge of three estates as executor and administrator.

S. H. POTTER, D. D. S.

S. H. Potter, D. D. S., a prominent and successful dentist of Dwight, Illinois, was born on the 7th of July, 1874, in Sheldon, Iroquois county, this state, and is a son of M. G. and Mahala (Griswold) Potter, natives of New York state and pioneers of Iroquois county, Illinois. In early life the father engaged in farming and as a progressive and enterprising agriculturist he met with marked success, becoming owner of some five hundred acres of valuable land in that county. Having secured a handsome property he moved to Sheldon, in 1881, and has since lived a retired life, enjoying the fruits of former toil. In his family were ten children, nine of whom are still living.

Of this family Dr. Potter is ninth in order of birth. He received his literary education in the public schools of Sheldon and was graduated from the high school of that place. In 1893 he entered the Northwestern Dental College, of Chicago, where he pursued the regular course and was graduated in April, 1896, with the degree of D. D. S. That same month he came to Dwight and opened an office. Although he met with strong opposition from his competitors, he was not discouraged, and, as his skill and ability were soon widely recognized, he was not long in building up the excellent practice which he now enjoys. He is especially proficient in bridge and crown work and has met with remarkable success. His younger brother, Edgar C., was graduated at the Northwestern Dental College, May 1, 1900, and is now engaged in practice with our subject, under the firm name of Potter Brothers. Politically, the Doctor is identified with the Republican party, and socially, affiliated with Hebron Lodge, No. 176, K. P., of Dwight.

JOHN Q. JOHNSON.

John Q. Johnson, whose home is on section 29, Esmen township, has been identified with the agricultural interests of Livingston county since July, 1857, and has borne an active part in its development and progress. He comes from across the sea, for he was born in Norway, November 1, 1835, and is a son of John and Martha (Iverson) Johnson, who spent their entire lives as farming people in that country. The father was four times married, and our subject is the youngest of the five children, two sons and three daughters, born of the second union. He

and a sister are now the only survivors. He was reared on a farm and had fair common school advantages. His knowledge of the English language has all been obtained through his own efforts since his emigration to America.

Before leaving Norway, Mr. Johnson was married, in April, 1856, to Miss Caroline Mitchell, also a native of that country, and the following year they came to the new world, taking passage on a sailing vessel at Stovanger and reaching Quebec, Canada, after a voyage of six weeks. They crossed the lakes to Chicago and proceeded at once to La Salle county, this state, where friends from Norway had previously located. Soon afterward they came to Livingston county and located in the town of Amity, where they made their home while Mr. Johnson worked by the day or month as a farm hand four or five years. He next rented land, and in 1864 bought eighty acres of the farm in Esmen township, where he now resides. At that time it was wild prairie with no improvements, but he built thereon a small house and soon placed the land under excellent cultivation. He has since purchased an adjoining eighty-acre tract, and the whole has been converted into a well-improved farm. He has tiled and fenced the land, has erected a good residence and substantial outbuildings, and has set out fruit and shade trees. In 1893 he bought another place of forty acres on section 29, Esmen township, where he now lives, and he has since made many improvements upon that farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have been born seven children, namely: Isabel and Martha, twins, the former of whom died at the age of seven years, the latter now the wife of James Street, of Hamilton county, Iowa; Mitchell, who is married and engaged in farming in Minnesota; John, who is married and assists in the operation of his father's farms; Dora, wife of Oliver Henderocker, of Hamilton county, Iowa; Isabel, wife of James Jacobson, a farmer of South Dakota, and Theodore, who died at the age of three years.

Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864, Mr. Johnson has been an ardent Republican in politics, and has given his support to every enterprise which he believed would prove of public benefit. He served one year as road commissioner and was a member of the school board three years, but has never sought official honors. Religiously, both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

GEORGE SKINNER.

The deserved reward of a well-spent life is an honored retirement from business in which to enjoy the fruits of former toil. To-day, after a useful and beneficial career, Mr. Skinner is quietly living at his beautiful home in Pontiac, surrounded by the comfort that earnest labor has brought him.

Mr. Skinner was born in Troy, Ohio, December 5, 1822, a son of Joseph M. and Lydia (Stillwell) Skinner. His paternal grandfather was George Skinner, a Revolutionary soldier, who was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, in May, 1761, and there was married, September 23, 1789, to Susanna Freeman, who was born in April, 1759. At an early day they floated down the Ohio river to Cincinnati, and located

on a farm of one hundred and sixty acres near Milford, Ohio, one mile from Camp Dennison, which place is still in possession of the family. There the grandfather died in 1853, his wife in 1849.

Joseph M. Skinner, father of our subject, was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, January 25, 1795, and accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, where he grew to manhood, remaining at home until he attained his majority. On the 27th of September, 1820, he married Lydia Stillwell, who was born in New Jersey, January 24, 1792. As a young man he built many mills in the unbroken forests of Ohio. On leaving the parental roof, he went to Troy, that state, and entered a general mercantile store, later becoming a leading merchant and prominent business man of that section. He engaged in pork packing through the winter months and also shipped produce quite extensively down the Miami, Ohio and Mississippi rivers to New Orleans. At that time it required three months to go to New York, buy goods and convey them to his store, as the trip had to be made with horses. Value of money was unstable and postage on a letter amounted to twenty-five cents. Mr. Skinner owned the first freight boat at Troy, which proved of great benefit to the township, and he was extensively engaged in the freighting business for some years. Later he owned and conducted a branch store at Covington, Ohio, and when the canal was completed engaged in the commission and shipping business, owning and running boats on the canal, while he left his partner in charge of the store at Troy. General Harrison was present at the opening of the canal, and our subject well remembers that important occasion. The father had served in the war of 1812 under that general, was a strong Whig and anti-slavery man, but never an office seeker. For many years he was an elder in the Presbyterian church and also a Mason, but during the Morgan trouble, he was forced, by public opinion of the church, to withdraw from the order. He died September 12, 1869, and his wife passed away December 19, 1860.

Our subject was educated in a subscription school at Troy, and during his youth assisted in his father's store. Later he commenced to learn the tanner's trade at Covington, Ohio, where he remained one year. Later, Mr. McCorkle, the leading tanner of Troy, dying, he took charge of the business, his father being administrator of the estate. In 1851 he went to Louisville, Kentucky, where he was engaged in the ice business, being the first man to bring northern ice into that city. This he shipped down the Ohio river. He was living there during the great American, or "Knownothing" mob, of 1856, but that summer he was forced to give up his business on account of failing health, and came to Livingston county, Illinois. He purchased two hundred and ten acres of land in Odell township, near the station of Cayuga, and in the spring of 1857 brought his family to their new home. They often traveled ten or fifteen miles without seeing a single habitation of any sort, and wolves were still quite numerous in this region. Mr. Skinner's land was still in its primitive condition when he located thereon, but he soon broke and tiled it, and erected good and substantial buildings, making it one of the most desirable farms of its size in the county. Though he still owns the place, he has made his home in Pontiac for the past twelve years, and has a fine brick residence here, which is supplied with many comforts and luxuries. In connection with general

farming he always engaged in stock raising, and while living in the country served as school director, but would never accept political positions.

In the fall of 1862 Mr. Skinner returned to his old home in Troy, Ohio, where he remained two years. As a young man he had been a member of the La Fayette Blues of that place, an infantry company that drilled all over the state, and in May, 1864, he joined the Home Guards as a member of Company K, One Hundred and Forty-seventh Ohio Infantry. They first went to Camp Dennison, Ohio, and from there to Fort Morrisy, Washington, D. C., where they were stationed at the attack of General Ewell, the last attempt of the rebels to capture the capital. Mr. Skinner remained there until the close of his term of eunlistment and was mustered out at Camp Dennison.

On the 12th of April, 1849, Mr. Skinner was united in marriage with Miss Elizaeth Shafer, who was born November 15, 1829, a daughter of Eckert and Rachel (Smith) Shafer. Her father was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, December 29, 1804, a son of George and Barbara Shafer, and was reared in Earl township, Lancaster county, between that city and Philadelphia. His father was of German descent and a soldier of the Revolutionary war. Mrs. Skinner's mother was born at New Holland, Pennsylvania, March 25, 1809, a daughter of Edward Smith. After following farming in his native state for several years Eckert Shafer left there in the spring of 1847, accompanied by his wife and six children, and moved to Troy, Ohio, by way of the canal and Ohio river. He bought a farm two miles from Troy, where his wife died March 7, 1854. Later he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased land in Esmen township, to the improvemtn and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until after his children were all married. He then made his home with his eldest child, Mrs. Skinner, dying there December 13, 1882.

Mr. and Mrs. Skinner have a family of nine children, namely: Loretta, wife of John J. Pfau, of Odell; Clara L., wife of Joseph French, of Indiana, by whom she has one daughter, Edna May; Elias Freeman, now a resident of Missouri; Rachel L., who married James Jones, of Streator, Illinois, and they have three children; Martha L., who married J. W. Adams, traveling passenger agent for the Vanderbilt lines, and a resident of San Francisco, and they have four children, Nona L., Nina L., George J. and Harry V.; Eckert, also a resident of California; Joseph Morris, who married Minnie Streator, has one child, Irma, and operates the home farm near Cayuga; Luella and Emma L., at home.

Both our subject and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian church. He assisted in organizing the church at Cayuga, and was one of the leading contributors to the erection of the house of worship there. He also served as elder of the church at Louisville, Kentucky, and has filled that office ever since in different societies with which he has been connected. He was most of the time superintendent of the Sunday school during his residence at Cayuga, and has never missed in his attendance at Sunday school or church since coming to Pontiac. His life has been exemplary in all respects, and it is safe to say that no man in his community is held in higher regard or is more deserving the respect and esteem of his fellow men than George Skinner. He has

been an active worker for the Republican party and its principles, but has never been an aspirant for office.

JOHN KULL.

It is astonishing to witness the success of men who have emigrated to America without capital and from a position of comparative obscurity have worked their way upward to a position of prominence. The readiness with which they adapt themselves to circumstances and take advantage of opportunities offered brings to them success and wins them a place among the leading business men of the community in which they reside. No better illustration of this can be found than in the life of John Kull, the well known proprietor of the Pontiac Steam Mill and manager of a meal and feed store on the Alton Railroad and Water street, Pontiac, of which place he has been a resident since October 11, 1894.

Mr. Kull was born in Niederlenz, Canton Argau, northeastern Switzerland, October 5, 1834, a son of John Kull, a baker by trade, who spent his entire life there. Our subject attended school there, but the times being hard he commenced work at the early age of nine years with the hope of being of some assistance to his parents. He entered the spinning room of a cotton factory, where he worked from six in the morning until nine at night, with only an hour each day for dinner, and received only the equivalent to one dollar per month in our money. When all tired out with the day's work he had to walk a distance of three miles to his home before getting his supper. In the winter he put in six hours of school work each day during the six years spent in the cotton factory. At the end of that time he began serving a three-years apprenticeship to the miller's trade with his uncle, and while thus employed received only his board and clothes in compensation for his labor, but he thoroughly learned the business and at the age of eighteen had a good trade, having passed the examination and received his papers.

Wishing to see more of the country Mr. Kull traveled over Switzerland and Germany, working in mills in all of the important cities of those countries. He also spent some time in France and learned to handle and put together the French burrs, this being an important part of his trade. By working in so many different mills he gained a varied knowledge of the methods in use and became an expert miller. Returning to Basal, Switzerland, one of the largest cities of his native land, he served as head miller in its largest mill for three years to the entire satisfaction of the owners.

In April, 1867, Mr. Kull came to the United States, landing in New York after a fifteen-days voyage in a steamer with an excellent knowledge of a good trade, but unable to speak a word of English. Coming directly to Highland, Illinois, he served as miller there for a time, and then went to Pocahontas, Illinois, where he was similarly employed for three years. He then removed to Greenville, Boone county, Illinois, and took charge of a mill for J. E. Walls, an English gentleman, who wanted a first-class, practical miller. All of the employees of the mill being Americans but himself, he learned the English language more readily than had ever before been necessary, and this has since been of great advantage to him. From Greenville he went to Litchfield, Illinois, and other places throughout

this state, and also various places in eastern, southwestern and northwestern Missouri. Subsequently he had charge of some of the best mills in Kansas. On the 1st of October, 1894, he came to Pontiac, Illinois, to take charge of the Pontiac Steam Mill for F. E. Wuerpel & Company, of St. Louis, and in March, 1897, purchased the mill, which he has since successfully conducted on his own account, having built up a good business. He has the leading custom trade of the city, receiving the patronage of all the extensive farmers of this section of the county who have grain to grind. He is also general agent for the Jersey Lily flour, made by Jennison Brothers & Company, of Janesville, Minnesota, and has built up a fine wholesale and retail trade, as the flour is of a superior quality and gives excellent satisfaction. As a wholesale dealer he sells in carload lots. In the spring of 1900 he equipped his mill with electric motors and now very successfully uses electricty for his motive power. He was the first miller in this part of the county to adopt it and this shows the characteristic enterprise of the man. While by nature conservative, he is yet ready to adopt new ideas in his business and keep in the front.

On the 18th of June, 1867, in Pocahontas, Illinois, Mr. Kull married Miss Karoline Bornhauser, who was born in Weinfelden, Canton Thurgau; Switzerland, and who came to this country on the same vessel with him, joining her father, Jacob Bornhauser, a cabinetmaker by trade, who crossed the Atlantic in 1866. By this union has been born one daughter, Carrie. Mr. Kull and his wife are both earnest members of the Presbyterian church and he is a Democrat in politics. He is enterprising and progressive and gives his support to any object he believes will prove of public benefit. He was one of the men who felt the need of a bridge at Vermillion street. He got up the petition and secured a subscription of nine hundred dollars from citizens and also a good one from the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company. With such a backing the council passed the ordinance and appropriated twenty-five hundred dollars to the enterprise, while the board of supervisors gave one thousand dollars. So Mr. Kull was realley the founder of the bridge, which is a great improvement to the western part of the city. Its need was long felt, but it required an active and energetic man like Mr. Kull to carry the enterprise through successfully.

WILHELM BISCHOFF.

Wilhelm Bischoff, an industrious and enterprising agriculturist residing on section 14, Avoca township, Livingston county, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Towanda township, McLean county, February 5, 1862. His parents, Ludwig and Mary (Allendorff) Bischoff, were both natives of Germany and came to America when young, about 1850. Their marriage was celebrated in Bloomington, Illinois, and in the vicinity of Towanda, McLean county, they began their domestic life upon a farm which Mr. Bischoff had rented. They remained residents of that county until coming to Livingston county in 1870, when they located on the farm now occupied by our subject. The father purchased the property and at once began to clear away the timber and break the land, having previously erected a small house suitable for a home for the family. He died in 1893, having survived

his wife several years, her death occurring in 1894. Both were consistent members of the Lutheran church, and he was a Republican in politics and an ardent worker for the party. In their family were five children, two sons and three daughters, but two died in childhood. Wilhelm, our subject, is the oldest of those who reached maturity; Matilda is now the wife of Richard Morton, who lives south of Fairbury; and Alvena married F. Burley, of Pleasant Ridge township, and died in 1889.

Wilhelm Bischoff came with the family to Livingston county and upon the home farm he grew to manhood, his education being acquired in the district schools of Avoca township. He early became familiar with the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist and has never left the homestead, but carried on farming successfully with his father until the latter's death, since which time he has had entire charge of the place, consisting of one hundred and twenty acres of good land, nearly forty of which are covered with timber, while the remainder is under a high state of cultivation. He has added, by purchase, an eighty-acre tract, giving him a farm of two hundred acres. He is a thrifty and energetic farmer, and by these means has made a success of his labors. He raises hogs for the Chicago market and in all his undertakings has steadily prospered.

In 1890 Mr. Bischoff was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Funk, who was born August 22, 1869, in Morton, Illinois, and daughter of John and Christian Funk. Her parents, dying when she was an infant, left her in care of relatives, with whom she made her home until reaching womanhood. She has a sister, Mrs. Christina Lucas, who resides in Stonington, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Bischoff have four children: Clarence L., Ethel Mae, Lester E. and Irving F., all attending the district school with exception of the youngest. The parents are active members and liberal supporters of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. Bischoff is also a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp of Fairbury and the Court of Honor, in which later his wife is a member. He has always been a stanch supporter of the Republican party, but would never accept office or hold any public position, preferring that they should be given to men whom he considers more worthy of them. He is, however, public spirited and progressive and gives his support to those measures which he believes will prove of public benefit.

JAMES A. CALDWELL.

Prominent among the enterprising, energetic and progressive business men of Pontiac, Illinois, is the subject of this sketch, who is now devoting his time and attention to the real estate, insurance and abstract business. He was born in Charleston, West Virginia, March 22, 1831, a son of Joseph and Mary Ann (Adams) Caldwell.

Joseph Caldwell, the progenitor of the family in the United States, emigrated with his family from Derry, Ireland, in 1769, and settled in Sherman's Valley, Perry county, Pennsylvania. He was of Scotch descent. About 1780 he moved farther west, locating on Sewickley creek, Pennsylvania. He had five children, of whom Joseph, the eldest, was the great-grandfather of our subject. The grandfather was James Caldwell, who was born in Ireland, February 21, 1759, and was about

J. A. CALDWELL.

ten years of age when brought to America. He married Sarah Byram, who was born February 13, 1763, and was the eldest child of Edward Byram. At an early day her father moved with his family to the neighborhood of Fort Pitt, now Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and on the 7th of April, 1779, during the Revolutionary war, he and one daughter were captured by the Indians and taken to Canada, where they remained in captivity for a year. The child was allowed to ride with the Indians on horseback a part of the way, but Mr. Byram was compelled to walk. In 1780 they were taken to Montreal and later to Quebec, being in prison at both places, and finally, in the spring of 1781, were transferred by boat with other English prisoners through Lake Champlain and Lake George, then down the Hudson river and on to Morristown, New Jersey, —their old home.

The Byram family is traced back to Nicholas Byram, son of a gentleman of prominence in Kent county, England. He was born in 1610, and as a boy was sent in charge of an agent to a remote school, but the agent took his gold and placed the boy on board a ship to the West Indies, where he was sold to pay his passage. Secreted in his clothes was some gold given him by his mother and with this he came to Massachusetts Bay in 1633 or 1634. He settled in Weymouth, Massachusetts. Edward Byram, previously mentioned, was descended from John and Priscilla Alden in the fifth generation. For a more extended history of this family see the book entitled "Abby Byram and her Father, the Indian Captives," published at Ottumwa, Iowa, in 1898.

After his marriage James Caldwell, our subject's grandfather, became a farmer of Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where he spent his life, dying there July 11, 1847. His wife passed away prior to 1833. He was a zealous Christian, strong and positive in his belief, and served as elder of the Sewickley Presbyterian church for some years. Most of his sons adhered to that faith and the father of our subject was educated for the Presbyterian ministry. He was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, in 1786, and was a student at the college in Cannonsburg, that state,—the oldest college west of the mountains. In early manhood he removed to Charleston, West Virginia, where he embarked in merchandising, and became one of the most prominent and successful business men of the place. He married Miss Mary Ann Adams, who was teaching school in Tennessee at that time. She was a native of Weston, Massachusetts, and a granddaughter of Alpheus Bigelow, who as a Revolutionary soldier participated in the battle of Concord. On both sides she was descended from old New England families. She was born in 1811 and died in 1890, having long survived her husband, who died at Charleston in 1848. Of their eight children who reached years of maturity our subject is the oldest.

James A. Caldwell was about eighteen years of age at the time of his father's death; he received a good academic education in his native city and began his business career as clerk in a drug store at Charleston, West Virginia, where he continued to make his home until 1865, covering the period of the Civil war. There he engaged in business for himself for a time. He first married, in 1860, Miss Jennie Harvey, of Springfield, Ohio, a daughter of Captain John Harvey, but she died in 1873, leaving two children, one of whom, Jennie, is still living.

In July, 1865, Mr. Caldwell came to Pontiac, Illinois, and embarked in the drug business on West Madison street in partnership with John A. Fellows, under the firm name of Fellows & Caldwell. They continued in business together for some years and were finally succeeded by the firm of Caldwell & McGregor, who for twenty-five years carried on a most successful business, theirs being by far the oldest drug store or business firm in the city. To their stock of drugs and books they later added jewelry and built up a good trade in that line. They built the block on the northeast corner of Mill and Madison streets, then the finest business block in the city, and also bought the opposite corner, and after selling the front part improved the remainder of the property. In 1895 the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Caldwell retired from the drug trade. For about eighteen months he conducted a grocery store, and since disposing of that has successfully engaged in the insurance and real estate business, handling property for others as well as himself. After the dissolution of the firm of Fellows & Caldwell he bought lots 4 and 5 at the corner of Madison and Plum streets, which he subdivided into three business lots and sold to different parties. About 1880, in partnership with Mr. McGregor, he bought twenty feet front on the corner where the Sterry block now stands and sold it afterward to C. W. Sterry. At the time of purchase it was covered with a two-story business house. Mr. Caldwell still owns six residences in the city and has a nice home at the corner of Mill and Grove streets.

In September, 1874, Mr. Caldwell was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Lovina Hill, of Pontiac, a daughter of G. E. Tibbets, who came here in 1866 from Maine, which was the birthplace of Mrs. Caldwell. They are active members of the Presbyterian church, in which our subject is now serving as elder. He has been a member of the official board many years and was superintendent of the Sunday-school some time. He always supported the Democratic party until the campaign of 1896, but could not endorse the principles advocated by the Chicago platform. He has made an untarnished record and unspotted reputation as a business man. In all places and under all circumstances he is loyal to truth, honor and right, justly valuing his own self-respect as infinitely more preferable than wealth, fame and position. His success has been the result of honest, persistent effort in the line of honorable and manly dealing.

GEORGE W. WOMELDORFF.

George W. Womeldorff, one of the highly respected citizens and successful farmers of Eppards Point township, residing on section 33, is a native of Illinois, born near Tremont, Tazewell county, February 22, 1846. His father, Daniel Womeldorff, was born in Gallia county, Ohio, in 1804, and there married Miss Harriet N. Kerr, a native of the same county and a daughter of Major John M. Kerr, an officer of the war of 1812. After his marriage Mr. Womeldorff followed farming in Ohio until 1844, when he came to Illinois and settled in Tazewell county. For about four years he was engaged in flat-boating down the Mississippi to New Orleans, and then turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, having purchased a claim in Tazewell county. Upon that place he died in 1852. Subsequently

his widow took her family back to Ohio, locating in the old neighborhood in Gallia county.

There our subject grew to manhood and attended the common schools. On the 25th of March, 1863, at the age of seventeen years, he joined the boys in blue of the Civil war, enlisting as a private in Company L, Seventh Ohio Cavalry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, under command of General Sherman. He participated in the battle of Stone River, the engagements of the Atlanta campaign, and then with his command went to the relief of General Thomas at Nashville. They were in the battle of Franklin and followed Hood to the Tennessee river. At Gravely Springs, Alabama, Mr. Womeldorff was severely wounded, being shot in the left fore-arm and left side and receiving a saber thrust in the right leg and a scratch on the right shoulder. He was sent to a hospital boat at Waterloo on the Tennessee river, and fourteen days later was taken to Jeffersonville, Indiana, where he remained in the hospital until June 5, 1865, when honorably discharged from the service, though his wounds did not heal for nearly a year after his return home.

Mr. Womeldorff then attended a select school for nine months and engaged in farming in Ohio for a year, but in the fall of 1867 he returned to Tazewell county, Illinois, in company with his mother, youngest brother and sister. They drove the entire distance and located in Tremont. For eighteen months our subject was employed as overseer of a farm and in 1869 came to Livingston county, operating a rented farm in Pike township for three years, while his mother and sister kept house for him.

In that township Mr. Womeldorff was married, March 18, 1873, to Miss Maria C. Beeks, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of James H. Beeks, who moved to Marshall county, Illinois, in 1853, and later to Livingston county, but is now a resident of Arkansas City, Kansas. Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Womeldorff five died in infancy. Those living are Eula, wife of John W. Farley, of Eppards Point township; Eugene, at home; Della, wife of Albert D. Hewitt, of Pontiac; Gilbert, Minnie, Ethel and Bertel, all at home. Mr. Womeldorff's mother died at his home December 28, 1898, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

For two years after his marriage our subject continued to engage in farming upon rented land in Pike township, where he subsequently purchased a tract of eighty acres. This he sold six years later and bought one hundred acres in the same township, upon which he also resided six years. On disposing of that property, in 1887, he bought his present farm of two hundred acres on section 33, Eppards Point township, to which he has subsequently added a forty-acre tract. He has made many useful and valuable improvements upon the place, and now has one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. Starting out in life for himself empty-handed, his career illustrates what can be accomplished through industry, perseverance, good management and a determination to succeed.

While with the army at Atlanta, Georgia, in 1864, Mr. Womeldorff cast his first presidential vote for Lincoln and has since been a stanch supporter of the Republican party. He has served his fellow citizens as supervisor and is now filling the office of township trustee. He has also been school director for thirteen years and president of his district in both Pike and Eppards Point town-

ships. Religiously he and all his family, with the exception of the youngest son, are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Weston, McLean county, and take an active part in church and Sunday school work. He is a prominent member of the Grand Army Post at Chenoa, in which he has served as commander and is now vice-commander. In times of peace as well as in war he is recognized as a most patriotic and useful citizen, and is held in high regard by all with whom he comes in contact, either in business or social life.

LESTER EDWIN KENT.

Lester Edwin Kent, a retired grain dealer and a prominent early settler of Pontiac, was born in Suffield, Hartford county, Connecticut, August 18, 1834, a son of Edwin and Huldah (Jewett) Kent, also natives of that state, his ancestors being among its pioneers. The father was of English extraction and of good Revolutionary stock. He was a farmer of Suffield and a man of considerable prominence in his community, serving as selectman and road commissioner. There both he and his wife died. She was a consistent member of the Baptist church.

Our subject was educated in the common schools and academy of his native town and remained at home until he attained his majority. In 1855 he came west to Chicago, Illinois, but first located in Kane county, having a cousin living at Kaneville, where he spent one year. In the fall of 1856 he came to Pontiac and entered the employ of Sidney A. Kent, a grain dealer and a very prominent man, who recently died in Chicago. While with him our subject became thoroughly familiar with the grain business in all its details, and in 1858 purchased the elevator in Pontiac and embarked in the business on his own account. The elevator was located on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, which was then run by Governor Matteson.

At that time grain was brought into Pontiac from distances of twenty or twenty-five miles, and as the wagons of the farmers would not hold shelled corn Mr. Kent furnished them with sacks. The elevators were often more than full and sacks would be piled up elsewhere like cord wood. It was sometimes impossible to get box cars to ship the grain and it had to be loaded on flat cars. Mr. Kent soon became interested in the grain business in other towns. He enlarged the elevator at Fairbury, when that place contained but one small house and store and before the railroad was built. He would drive over in the morning and back again at night. He built the first elevator at Odell, when it had but one store, and was instrumental in building up the town, as farmers bringing their grain to the elevator wished to do their trading there. At Odell the grain was shoveled into the cars at first. Mr. Kent also built the first elevators at Cayuga and Blackstone, this county, where he also engaged in the lumber business, and for two years shipped grain from Nevada, but did not build there. In those days he was the largest shipper on the Alton road, and would load full trains at both Pontiac and Blackstone; the road being short of cars they would run a train in for him to load immediately. He kept one man at Ocoya and furnished employment to a number of others most of the time. Most of his grain was shipped to Chicago. For over twenty-five years he continued to be at the head of

the grain trade in this county and gave his attention entirely to that business. He advanced money liberally to farmers in need of assistance when starting out, and was of great help to Pontiac in bringing trade here, as well as to the other towns where he had elevators.

Mr. Kent was also one of the original stockholders of the Pontiac National Bank and served as its vice-president for a number of years. At one time he owned and operated a distillery and was engaged in cattle feeding. He went into the former business to assist a man in difficulty, knowing nothing of the business, and got into trouble with the government, as the taxes were not paid, but owing to his influence and it being ascertained that the delinquency was prior to his taking possession he was soon cleared. He closed the distillery, but fed cattle for some years, doing a big business in that line, shipping in cattle from Chicago.

Mr. Kent married Miss Antoinette Graves, of Joliet, and they have one daughter, Mary L., wife of Victor Pearre, of Pontiac, by whom she has two children, William Payson and Kent Alden. He attends and supports the Episcopal church, of which his family are members. About 1865 he purchased a half-block at No. 206 North Court, opposite the park, which property he still owns and occupies, it having been improved by him. In 1894 he retired from active business and is now enjoying a well earned rest.

Socially Mr. Kent is a member of Pontiac lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., and belongs to the chapter, council and St. Paul's Commandery, all of Fairbury. He has always affiliated with the Republican party, casting his first presidential vote for Fremont in 1856. He served as alderman from the second ward for four years and was instrumental in getting seventy-five car-loads of stone put into the street from the court house to the depot and also a sidewalk around the court house square. Having shipped so much over the Chicago & Alton road he got Mr. Chappel to ship the stone free of freight charges. This stone made an excellent foundation for the city streets. He has taken an active interest in promoting the welfare of the town and county, encouraging and aiding all enterprises tending to benefit the public, and enjoys in a high degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow men.

LEONARD WEBER.

Leonard Weber, a representative agriculturist of Pike township, residing on section 10, has made his home in Livingston county since 1869 and has taken an active part in its development. He was born in New York February 2, 1850, and is a son of George Weber, who was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, about 1822, and emigrated to the United States when a young man, locating near Utica, New York, where he married Sophia Horner, also a native of Wurtemburg. Her father died in Germany and she came to America at the same time as her future husband. In this country Mr. Weber worked for others and also engaged in teaming in New York for some years, three of his children having been born in that state, but in 1856 he came to Illinois and first settled in Woodford county, where he engaged in farming on rented land for several years. At length he was able to purchase a small place in the southern part of the county, and on disposing of the same, in 1869, he bought a farm of one hundred

and sixty acres in Pike township, Livingston county, which at that time was but slightly improved. After operating it for several years he sold and bought another place in Pike township, which he subsequently disposed of, and now makes his home in Pontiac township, where he owns a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres.

The subject of this sketch was a lad of six years when he came to this state, and in Woodford and Livingston counties he grew to manhood, his education being acquired in the public schools near his home. He remained with his father until he attained his majority, and then rented a farm on section 3, Pike township, where he engaged in farming for about six years. Mr. Weber was married in this county, April 2, 1878, to Miss Barbara Fischer, a native of Woodford county, Illinois, and a daughter of Joseph Fischer, a substantial farmer of Pike township, Livingston county, who was formerly a resident of Woodford county and was born in Germany. Mrs. Weber was reared and educated in this county. Our subject and his wife have a family of three children: Barbara S., Joseph G. and Leonard F., all at home.

After his marriage Mr. Weber continued to engage in farming upon rented land for about five years. He rented his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, Pike township, for two years and then purchased the place, to the further improvement and cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies. In his farming operations he is meeting with marked success and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly justly merited, for it is due entirely to his own unaided efforts and good management. Politically Mr. Weber is identified with the Democratic party on national issues, but at local elections votes for the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party lines. For three years he served as school director, but has never cared for political honors. Religiously both he and his wife are members of the Evangelical church of Eppards Point.

EDWARD O. REED.

Edward O. Reed, who for several years has been prominently identified with the public affairs of Livingston county, and is now most acceptably serving as county treasurer, was born in Bloomington, Illinois, June 12, 1860, a son of Captain Henry B. and Esther (Beck) Reed. The father is a native of Pennsylvania, born near Pottsville, Schuylkill county, January 29, 1833, and there grew to manhood and married. In early life he learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed prior to the Civil war. On coming to Illinois, he settled in Naperville, later spent a short time in Joliet, and then moved to Bloomington. In the fall of 1860 he came to Pontiac, where he was engaged in the shoe business until the following spring, when he enlisted in Company D, Twentieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until after the battle of Shiloh. On the field at Fort Donelson, he was promoted for gallant service to the rank of second lieutenant, and our subject now has in his possession a reward of merit issued by Governor Yates. His term of enlistment having expired, Lieutenant Reed returned home. While being paid off at St. Louis, the paymaster told the government needed such men as he and suggested that he see Governor Yates. This he failed to

do, but the Governor sent for him and asked him to help recruit three companies in this part of the state. He helped recruit five, and again went to the front as captain of Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was with Sherman on the march to the sea and remained in the service until the close of the war, participating in the grand review at Washington, District of Columbia. Returning to his home in Pontiac, he resumed the shoe business, which he carried on until appointed by Governor Oglesby as custodian of memorial hall in the state house at Springfield, and served four years at that time, being the first in the new hall and attending to the arranging of all the flags, etc. He proved a most capable official and was re-appointed by Governor Fifer. He is an honored member and commander of T. Lytle Dickey Post, G. A. R., also belongs to Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., and both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. He is now living a retired life in Pontiac. A more extended mention of this worthy gentleman may be found on another page of this volume.

Our subject was educated in the public schools of Pontiac, and during his youth served an apprenticeship to the cigarmaker's trade, at which he worked until twenty-seven years of age, when he formed a partnership with John C. Riess, under the firm name of Reed & Riess, and started a manufactory of their own, which they still conduct. They have met with marked success in the undertaking and furnish employment to six or eight men. Mr. Reed built up the trade as a traveling man, but the firm now sells their goods mainly to home consumers, in this county. He owns a good store building and a fine residence on South Mill street, where he makes his home. He was married, December 15, 1897, to Miss Eunice Stott, a daughter of John Martin Stott, of Chicago, and they have one daughter, Esther.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Reed has been an ardent Republican in politics and has taken a prominent and influential part in public affairs. He was serving as alderman from the third ward when the water works were put in and the sewer system adopted, the city being bonded to put in the sewers. Before his term expired he was elected assistant supervisor and was a member of the finance committee that found the ways and means by which the county could build the new court house, the contract being let to a contractor providing he would take the county warrants. It was built at a cost of sixty thousand dollars and is one of the finest in this section of the state. In the fall of 1894, before his time as assistant supervisor expired, Mr. Reed was elected county sheriff and entered upon the duties of the office in December, that year. That he filled the position in a most creditable and satisfactory manner is shown by his being elected county treasurer prior to the expiration of his term as sheriff, taking the office of treasurer the day he left the other office. When the auditing committee of the county checked up his four years as sheriff they found that the county was sixty dollars in his debt instead of their being deficiency. He was a member of the Sheriff's Association of the state. He is now supervisor of assessment of the county, which makes his position a very large and responsible one, and he handles over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year. His official duties have always been discharged with a fidelity and promptness worthy of the highest com-

mendation, and he has proved a most popular and efficient officer. Mr. Reed is now, in 1900, chairman of the Republican central committee of Livingston county, and the party organization will, under his administration, be kept intact, and the full vote of the party be polled. Fraternally he is a member of Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M.; Fairbury Chapter, R. A. M.; the Council R. & S. M., of Gibson City; and St. Paul Commandery, No. 34, K. T., of Fairbury. He also belongs to a number of mutual orders, including the Modern Woodmen of America.

MRS. MARIA OWEN.

Mrs. Maria Owen, who now has the distinction of having been a resident of Pontiac longer than any other of its citizens, came here with her husband in 1842. She has witnessed almost the entire development of the county, has seen its wild lands transformed into beautiful homes and farms, its hamlets grow into villages and thriving towns and all of the interests and evidences of an advanced civilization introduced.

Mrs. Owen was born January 16, 1812, in New York, fourteen miles from Lake Ontario, and is a daughter of Starks and Esther (Gilbert) Tracy. The father was a native of Sharon, New York, born April 3, 1778, and an early settler of Oswego county, where he bought land prior to his marriage and there continued to make his home throughout life. He was a farmer by occupation and one of the highly respected men of his community. His estimable wife was a member of the Congregational church. Both died in Oswego county, New York. Mrs. Owen's maternal grandfather was Allen Gilbert, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, who was severely wounded in the head and left for dead on the battle-field, but was found and cared for until he recovered. At an early day he removed from Schoharie county, New York, to Oswego county, where his daughter, Mrs. Tracy, was born August 23, 1793. He, too, was a farmer and a prominent man in his community.

In 1840 Mrs. Owen married Augustins Fellows, who, with his brother, owned a large farm in Oswego county, New York, but in 1842 he sold his interest in the same and purchased property in Pontiac, Illinois, whither the family removed in the fall of that year. The trip was made by way of the great lakes and Welland canal in a small propeller to Chicago, and they brought with them all their household effects, which were conveyed from that city to Ottawa, Illinois, by teamsters who were returning to the latter place, where Mr. Fellows had a sister living. There teams were hired to convey the family and their effects to their new home in Pontiac. A farm of two hundred acres and a number of town lots belonged to the estate they had traded for before coming west, so that they practically owned all of the present city at that time. There were only three families living there, and the buildings of the town consisted of a small frame house and the court house. Upon the farm, which adioined the village on the east was a good two-room log house, with large fire places in both rooms, making it perfectly comfortable.

Selling his town lots, Mr. Fellows turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his farm and met with success in its operation. On the lot now occupied by Squire Woodrow's residence he built the first large hotel in Pontiac in 1847, and also

ELIJAH B. OWEN.

MRS. MARIA OWEN.

a large barn. In 1848 they rented the hotel and that summer returned east on a visit, but in 1849 took charge of the property. While thus employed Mr. Fellows died of cholera in the summer of 1849, and two of their children, aged seven and two years, respectively, died of the same dread disease. Having lost their three other children prior to this time, Mrs. Fellows was thus left alone. For over a year she carried on the hotel and farm, but found it a very difficult task.

In the fall of 1850 she married Nelson Buck, a surveyor and nurseryman of Bloomington, where he was engaged in business for some years. For several years they conducted the hotel and also the farm, and their place became the leading hostelry in this section. In those early days before the railroad was built drovers often stopped at their house in large numbers. One man would come in an hour in advance of the rest, saying that twelve or fourteen men would be there for supper. They also had a large barn for the teams of the many movers passing through this part of the state at that time. In the spring of 1854, when the Chicago & Alton Railroad was built, they boarded the construction hands and did an extensive business. Mrs. Owen has entertained Abraham Lincoln, Judge David Davis and other illustrious men. Her husband received appointment to conduct the government survey between Kansas and Nebraska, and while thus engaged he and his party were killed by the Indians in July, 1869. Thus she was again left alone with a large property to care for, including the farm, hotel and city lots. Mr. Buck had three children by his first marriage, namely: Willard, a soldier of the Civil war, who is now living in Wisconsin; Clarissa, deceased; and Cordelia, widow of William Watson and a resident of Pontiac.

At intervals Mrs. Owen continued to conduct her hotel for many years, it being rented in the meantime. She made her home on Water street until 1899, when her present elegant home on North Main street was built. It is supplied with all modern conveniences and accessories, including electric light, hot water, etc., and here, surrounded by every comfort, she is spending her declining days, loved and respected by all who know her. Her youngest sister, Mary G., was also one of the pioneers of the county, locating here about the same time as Mrs. Owen, and her home was two miles up the river. Her first husband was Mr. Burgett, her second Mr. Fricks and her third Mr. Winslow. After her last marriage she lived on a farm two miles from Pontiac, but spent her last days in the city, dying at the home of Mrs. Owen February 16, 1900.

For her third husband our subject married Elijah Owen, who came from near Elmira, Chemung county, New York, and during his active business career engaged in farming but later lived retired in Pontiac. Mr. Buck laid off two additions from her original farm and Mr. Owen laid off the remainder, the additions being known as Buck's first and second additions and Owen's addition. Her name appears on many of the deeds of this place. She was one of the original stockholders of both of the national banks of Pontiac and has displayed remarkable business and executive ability in the management of her business affairs. She united with the Presbyterian church in Pontiac on its organization, and has since been one of its active and prominent members. When she first located here the only religious services were prayer meetings held

in the court house on Sundays, but as soon as the railroad was built churches were erected, and to their erection and support she has always contributed liberally. She is a most estimable lady of many sterling qualities, and has a large circle of friends in the city which has so long been her home.

LOUIS A. NAFFZIGER.

Louis A. Naffziger, the popular cashier of the Bank of Dwight, has won the enviable reputation as a most capable financier and occupies a position of no little prominence in connection with the public affairs of the town. His life demonstrates what may be accomplished through energy, careful management, keen foresight, and the utilization of the powers with which nature has endowed one, and the opportunities with which the times surround him.

Mr. Naffziger is proud to claim Illinois as his native state, his birth occurring in McLean county, March 31, 1860. His father, Peter Naffziger, was born in Darmstadt, Germany, March 4, 1831, and there he remained until reaching his majority, when he came to America and located first in McLean county on a farm, later went to Butler county, Ohio, where he worked on a farm, the next year removing to Chicago, where he worked at his trade of baker for a time. When his parents came to America he removed with them to Putnam county, later removing to McLean county. At the age of twenty-eight he was married in McLean county, Illinois, to Miss Catherine Stuckey, who was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, August 30, 1840. Her father, Peter Stuckey, was born in Switzerland in August, 1799, and died February 23, 1860. In 1824 he married Elizabeth Sommers, who was born ovember 24, 1801, in Alsace-Loraine, and in 1830 they emigrated to the United States and located in Butler county, Ohio, where they resided twenty years. In October, 1850, they removed to McLean county, Illinois, and took up their residence in Danvers township. Mrs. Stuckey died in 1885 in Pike township, Livingston county.

After his marriage Peter Naffziger engaged in farming in McLean county until 1869, when he came to Waldo township, Livingston county, and purchased a tract of raw land, which he commenced immediately to improve and cultivate, converting it into a fine farm, on which he lived for many years. In 1876 he moved to Washington, Illinois, where he was engaged in mercantile business for a few years, and later followed the same pursuit in Stanford, Illinois, until 1896, when he went to Slaughter, East Felician Parish, Louisiana, where he is now engaged in cotton planting. Of his four children, Louis A., our subject, is the oldest; Emile died at the age of nine years, the result of an accident; Bertha is the wife of George L. Riggs, a farmer and stock raiser of Botna, Iowa, and one son died in infancy.

Christian Naffziger, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Darmstadt, Germany, January 17, 1803, and came to this country, locating in Putnam county, later moving to McLean county, Illinois, dying there March 8, 1893. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Barbara Staley, was born January 22, 1805, and died February 19, 1898.

Louis A. Naffziger, our subject, rereceived his primary education in the public schools of McLean county, and later at-

tended the high school of Washington, Illinois, at the same time clerking in a clothing store mornings and evenings, and steadily through the summer months. Leaving school at the age of sixteen, he continued to clerk in the clothing store of John Burkey for one year, and then entered the dry goods establishment of E. E. Hornish as clerk and bookkeeper, remaining with him in that capacity for three years. In the spring of 1880 A. G. Danforth, of the banking firm of A. G. Danforth & Company, of Washington, Illinois, made Mr. Naffziger a proposition to enter the bank as bookkeeper and assistant cashier, which he accepted, remaining with him three years. At the end of that time, March 15, 1883, he accepted a position with David McWilliams of the Bank of Dwight as bookkeeper and assistant cashier, and in the fall of that year, when the cashier, J. W. Watkins, resigned, he was appointed to that position, which he has since so efficiently filled. In September, 1891, he built his present pleasant home on the corner of Seminole and Clinton streets, and besides this property he owns a well improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 2, Broughton township, Livingston county, and also some western lands.

On the 1st of June, 1882, Mr. Naffziger was united in marriage with Miss M. Carrie Hukill, of Washington, Tazewell county, Illinois, who was born in McLean county, a daughter of Jackson and Maria (Kern) Hukill. Her father was born in Fayette county, Ohio, October 12, 1823, and for a number of years was a traveling salesman, representing a school furniture company of Wabash, Indiana. In early days he also engaged in mercantile business in Lincoln, Illinois. He died July 27, 1893, but his wife, who was born in Mount Pleasant, Pennsylvania, December 28, 1829, is still living and continues to make her home in Washington, Illinois. Their children were James H., M. Carrie, Ida Belle and Grace. The last named is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Naffziger have two children: Clara, born June 11, 1883, and Oliver Hukill, born October 29, 1887. The former is attending the high school, the latter the grammar schools of Dwight.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Naffziger are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has been an official member for ten years, serving as superintendent of the Sunday school two years; one of the board of stewards at the present time, and chairman of the finance committee of the church. As a Republican, he has taken an active and prominent part in local politics since attaining his maority, and was secretary of the Republican club of Dwight during the McKinley campaign of 1896. His first office was that of village clerk, and he was afterward appointed village treasurer, which position he filled two years. During the boom of the town a sewerage system, costing over twenty-eight thousand dollars, was put in, and Mr. Naftziger was appointed collector of special assessment by the president of the village board. He was elected trustee of the village and served in that capacity two years; was appointed township treasurer and held that office six years. In all the relations of life he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, whether public or private, and is numbered among the valued and useful citizens of Dwight, for he is preeminently public spirited and progressive, and takes an active interest in the enterprises tending to public development.

AUGUSTUS W. COWAN.

Augustus W. Cowan, who is now successfully engaged in the abstract business in Pontiac, with office at No. 108 West Washington street, was born near Watertown, New York, October 14, 1837, a son of William and Emeline (Coffeen) Cowan, also natives of the Empire state. For some years the father was engaged in business as a tinsmith and hardware merchant, in Watertown, but died in Naples, New York, in 1851, at about the age of forty-eight years. our subjects maternal grandparents were Henry Dale and Delight (Whitney) Coffeen. Throughout life the former engaged in farming near Watertown, in Jefferson county, New York, and was a term as sheriff of that county. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Andrew and Euphemia (Kelly) Cowan, natives of Scotland, who came to the United States in 1797, and settled in Schenectady, New York, where they made their home throughout the remainder of their lives. On leaving their native land the following testimonials were given them:

"WEGTOWN, 25th March, 1797.

"That Andrew Cowan and his wife Euphemia Kelly are members of the Associate Congregation here and now remove from this country to North America with unblemished characters is attested by

THEO. OGILVIE, Minister.

"We, the magistrates of the borough of Wegtown, North Britain, hereby certify and declare that the bearer Mr. Andrew Cowan has resided in this borough since his infancy and has always maintained an unexceptionable character for honesty and sobriety, and being about to depart for North America with his wife and children, also of good character, ought to meet with no molestation or hindrance, he continuing to behave as becometh.

"Given under onr hand and the common seal of the borough this 25th day of March, 1797 year.

JOHN NATHOM,
(Seal) JAMES HEMMAG.
Appended by
WM. W. CONNELS,
Town Clerk.

The subject of this sketch remained in Watertown until eighteen years of age, and was educated at the Jefferson County Institute. He came west in 1854 and the following year took up his residence in Pontiac, where he clerked in a general store for some years. He then formed a partnership with Judge Jonathan Duff in the banking and real-estate business, conducting it with such success that in a few years the firm had gathered together a considerable fortune, invested mainly in lands in this section. In 1870 the partnership was dissolved. Although the business relations were discontinued there still remained such warm personal feeling as exists between brothers and the closest friends, until the Judge's death in 1881. Bound together by ties not only of personal friendship but that of political affinity and the brotherhood of secret societies, the two members of the firm were regarded as almost members of one family, and it was natural that the living member of the firm should be deeply affected at the departure of one he loved so well. Mr. Cowan continued in the real-estate business untii 1882, when he was elected county treasurer and for four years held that office, discharging its duties in a commendable and satisfactory manner. Since 1889 he has been owner of the Livingston county title ab-

stracts and has devoted his time and attention to that business, meeting with good success.

At Rome, New York, August 21, 1867, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Cowan and Miss Mary H. P. Christian, a daughter of Luther and Margaret (George) Christian, natives of that state. The mother died in Rome, in 1868, after which the father lived with our subject for some time, but died at the home of his son in Port Erie, Canada, in 1871. Throughout his active business life he engaged in blacksmithing. Mr. and Mrs. Cowan have one child, Emeline, who was born in Pontiac, in 1872, and is at home. The family all attend the Episcopal church, and Mr. Cowan is connected with Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., and the higher orders of Masonry, belonging to the Commandery at Bloomington. Until 1896 he always affiliated with the Democratic party, and besides serving as county treasurer he has been called upon to fill several minor offices in his township and city. He has always taken a deep interest in public affairs, as every true American citizen should, and gives a hearty support to those enterprises which he believes will prove of public benefit.

JOB FARLEY.

Job Farley, deceased, was for many years one of the leading agriculturists of Eppards Point township, a man honored and respected wherever known. He was born in Wiltshire, England, September 16, 1829, and a son of Nias and Mary (Sellwood) Farley, both natives of the southern part of England. They lived as farming people in that country throughout their entire lives, both dying at about the age of sixty-five years.

Our cubject was reared and educated at the place of his birth, and before coming to America he was a member of the London police force two years, and the force at Shaftsbury one year. It was in 1859 that he crossed the board Atlantic and came at once to Illinois, settling first near Oneida, Knox county, where he commenced farming, an occupation he continued to follow until life's labors were ended. After seven years spent in Knox county, he removed to Henry county, where fifteen years were passed, and in 1883 came to Livingston county, locating on section 28, Eppards Point township. In 1875 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on this section, and in 1882 eighty acres more, to which he added from time to time until at his death he was the owner of five eighty-acre tracts, with the exception of one acre used for school purposes, all under a high state of cultivation and a comfortable house on each farm. These were purchased and improved with the view of providing homes for his children.

On the 14th of April, 1863, in Knoxville, Knox county, Illinois, Mr. Farley married Miss Elizabeth Walker, a daughter of James and Mary (Smith) Walker, also natives of Leeds, Yorkshire, England, where her father, a machinist by trade, died at the age of thirty-six years when Mrs. Farley was only eleven years old. Her mother had died eight years previous. She came to the United States in 1855, when nineteen years old, and lived with her uncle and aunt, John and Mary Else, in Truro township, Knox county, Illinois, until her marriage. Mr. Else, who was a farmer by occupation, died in Peoria in 1882, after which his wife made

her home with Mr. and Mrs. Farley, where she died February 11, 1900.

Of the seven children born to our subject and his wife five are still living, namely: (1) Ida, born in Knok county, March 27, 1864, is the wife of Edward Folsom, a farmer of Eppards Point, and they have one child, Edith. (2) Onias W., born in Knox county, July 3, 1865, married Lizzie Arendts, and until recently was engaged in farming, but is now living in Pontiac. (3) Mary, born in Knox county, August 12, 1867, is the wife of Charles Moffett, a farmer of Eppards Point township, and they have three children, Lela Heath, Merton J. and Harold. (4) Anna S., born in Henry county, May 28, 1869, is the wife of Sherman Myer, also a farmer of Eppards Point township, and to them were born five children, three of whom are now living, Maud M., Glenn and Lee C. (5) John J., born in Henry county, May 11, 1872, died January 26, 1874. (6) Arthur J., born January 7, 1874, married Anna Earhardt, and follows farming in Eppards Point. (7) The youngest child died in infancy unnamed.

Mr. Farley died at his home in Eppards Point township, January 9, 1895, after an illness of about six months, though he had been a sufferer from dropsy for twenty years and was often in great pain. The funeral was held at his home and the services were conducted by Rev. Hussey, assisted by Rev. Hobbs. The remains were interred in Payne's cemetery. In his religious belief Mr. Farley was an Episcopalian, and in political sentiment was a Democrat. Though he never sought office, he was called upon to serve as township commissioner in Henry county for nine years and also as school director. He was a hard working and industrious man, strictly upright and honorable in all his dealings and one who made many friends and no enemies. He was a devoted husband and father and took great delight in his home and children. He accumulated considerable wealth and was able to leave his family in comfortable circumstances. Since her husband's death Mrs. Farley has moved to Pontiac and purchased a pleasant home at No. 506 South Vermilion street, where she now resides. She is a most estimable lady, highly respected by all who know her.

ANDREW J. HOOBLER.

Andrew J. Hoobler, who is now living a retired life in Streator, Illinois, was for many years actively identified with the business interests of Livingston county, and was one of its honored and representative citizens. He is a native of Indiana, born in Vermillion county, in October, 1837, and there grew to manhood. His father, John Hoobler, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1801, of old Pennsylvania Dutch stock, and was one of the pioneer farmers of Vermillion county, Indiana. In 1853 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and entered about fourteen hundred acres of land in Newton township, becoming one of the large land owners of the county in his day. Here he continued to make his home throughout the remainder of his life, dying in 1885. He was elected a representative to the legislature on the Whig ticket and filled that position one term. He was one of the pioneer United Brethren circuit riders and rode the state over at one time. He established the church of that denomination in his township, and spent most of his means in founding churches throughout Illinois, being practically the father of them all.

Upon the home farm Andrew J. Hoobler grew to manhood, receiving the usual educational advantages of the day. He married Miss Sarah Leonard, a daughter of Dexter and Elizabeth Leonard, natives of Massachusetts and early settlers of this county. Three children were born of this union, namely: Mrs. Fanny Syphers of Cornell, Illinois; Wilder, of Manville, this county, and Erastus, the present popular circuit clerk, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume.

Mr. Hoobler purchased a farm in Newtown township, but after operating it for a few years he turned his attention to mercantile business, conducting a store in what is now Manville (then the village of Newtown) for some seventeen or eighteen years. He met with marked success in the enterprise, and finally retired from business, turning it over to his sons. Moving to Streator he has since lived retired. He is well known throughout Livingston county, and has the confidence and respect of all with whom he has come in contact either in business or social life.

JOHN M. FINLEY.

John M. Finley, a successful farmer and honored citizen of Pontiac township, owns and operates a well-improved and valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres on sections 3 and 4, three and three-quarters miles north of the city of Pontiac. He is a native of Ohio, born in Delaware county, November 25, 1831, and is a son of Robert Finley, who was born in Virginia in 1801. The family is of Irish origin and was founded in the Old Dominion at an early day. Our subject's paternal grandfather was John Finley, a soldier of the Revolutionary war, who removed from Virginia to Ohio and opened up a farm in Delaware county. There Robert Finley grew to manhood and married Elizabeth Riley, who was born in Pennsylvania of German ancestry. Her father, Joseph Riley, was a native of Germany, and when a child came to America. The vessel on whic he sailed was wrecked and his parents were drowned. He was then taken to the home of strangers and readed by them, at the same time adopting their name. For a few years after his marriage Robert Finley engaged in farming in Ohio, and in 1837 came to Illinois, locating on the Fox river, near St. Charles, Kane conty, where he opened up a farm and spent his remaining years, dying there in 1886, at the ripe old age of seventy-five years. His wife had passed away two years previously at the age of sixty-nine years.

Our subject was about six years of age when brought by his parents to this state, and in Kane county he grew to manhood. He attended the common schools, but is mostly self-educated, haing always been a great reader, and is to-day a well-informed man. On leaving home in 1854 he came to Livingston county, where he and his brother Joseph had purchased land in 1852 and 1853, and after locating thereon they operated it together until 1861.

On the 21st of November, 1861, in this county, Mr. Finley married Miss Frances E. McDougall, a native of New York, and a daughter of Robert and Christiana McDougall, who came from that state to Illinois about 1850 and settled in La Salle county, where her father died in 1857. Her mother is still living in California at the age of eighty-two. Mrs. Finley was pricipally reared in that county. To our subject and

his wife were born two children: Marian E., who was educated at the Pontiac high school and Dixon College, and has successfully engaged in teaching in this county, but is now at home with her parents, and Orilla Eloise, wife of Warren Collins, who operates a part of the Finley homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. Finley began their domestic life upon his present farm. He has since erected a neat and substantial resi- [illegible] has tilled the place and set out fruit and ornamental trees, so that it is now one of the best improved farms in the locality. In connection with general farming he has engaged in raising and feeding stock of a good grade, and in all his undertakings he has met with excellent success, becoming quite well to do. He and his brother had little means on locating here, but being industrious, persevering and ambitious, his labors were soon crowned with success. As a public spirited citizen he takes a deep and commendable interest in public affairs and gives his support to those enterprises which he believes will advance the general welfare. Originally, he was a staunch Republican in politics and cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, continuing to affiliate with that party until 1896, when he voted for W. J. Bryan and free silver. He has been a delegate to numerous conventions, and for a quarter of a century has been an efficient member of the school board, but cares nothing for political preferment.

APOLLOS CAMP

Apollos Camp, deceased, was for over forty years prominently identified with the agricultural and business interests of Livingston county, and was justly numbered among her honored pioneers and leading citizens, having located here in the spring of 1851. He was born in Thomaston (then Plymouth Hollow), Connecticut, March 19, 1806, and was a son of Ephraim Camp, a Revolutionary hero, who was born in 1750 and spent his entire life in Connecticut, where he owned and operated a mill. Our subject grew to manhood in his native place and there learned the stone mason's trade in early life.

There Mr. Camp married Miss Nancy Thomas, a niece of Seth Thomas, the noted clockmaker, by whom our subject was employed as superintendent of his outdoor work for some time, and lived upon Mr. Thomas' large farm for eighteen years. His health failing, Mr. Camp purchased a farm near by and for three years devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits.

In the spring of 1851 Mr. Camp came to Livingston county, Illinois, and located land in Sunbury township, but the family did not come until one year later, when the trip to this state was made by water. In the fall of 1852 he moved to Esmen township, his first home in Illinois, where he took up a section of land, though he still continued to own a three-hundred-and-twenty-acre tract in Sunbury township. He built the best house in Esmen township at that time. His nearest neighbor was then three miles away, and if he required anything such as blacksmithing or a supply of groceries he had to go to Ottawa, fording all the streams and taking two days to make the trip, so sparsely was the country settled at that time, so few improvements having been made and so few towns established. Mr. Camp continued to reside upon his farm until 1876, when he removed to Pontiac, but went day after day

APOLLOS CAMP.

to his farm until past eighty years of age. He added to his landed possessions from time to time until he and his son-in-law, Mr. Humiston, together owned two thousand acres of valuable land, most of which was improved and under a high state of cultivation. Of excellent business ability and broad resources, he attained a prominent place among the wealthy and substantial citizens of the county. On locating here he had six thousand dollars in gold, and being a wide-awake business man of keen discrimination and sound judgment his accumulations rapidly increased. He and his son-in-law engaged in business together until the latter's death. They were among the original stockholders of the National Bank of Pontiac, of which he was one of the early directors. His career was such as to warrant the trust and confidence of the business world, for he conducted all transactions on the strictest principles of honor and integrity, and he was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him.

Mr. Camp died May 2, 1892, and his wife departed this life January 23, 1864. She was a member of the Presbyterian church for some years. To them were born two children, but Edward Thomas died September 15, 1861, before he attained his twenty-first year. The only representative of the family now living is Harriet, widow of Bennet Humiston, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume.

JOHN H. SMITH.

This gentleman is entitled to distinction as one of the most progressive and enterprising men of Pontiac, with whose business interests he has been prominently identified for many years. Upon the commercial activity of a community depends its prosperity and the men who are now recognized as leading citizens are those who are at the head of important business enterprises. He is a man of broad capabilities who carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

Mr. Smith was born in Half Moon Valley, Centre county, Pennsylvania, August 12, 1839, a son of Jacob and Lydia Ann (Henderson) Smith. The father was born in Union county, that state, of old Pennsylvania Dutch stock, and being left fatherless at the age of nine years was bound out to strangers. There were only two children in the family and his sister was taken to another place. In Centre county, he married Lydia Ann, daughter of David Henderson, who lived near Tyrone, Centre county. Later he located near Pine Grove, Pennsylsylvania, where he engaged in farming and on stormy days worked at the gunsmith's trade which he had learned during his youth. Later he lived in Huntingdon county, the same state, but was with our subject in Pontiac, Illinois, a short time prior to his death. Both he and his wife were consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

In the county of his nativity, John H. Smith was reared and obtained a good practical education in its common schools. At the age of eighteen he was bound as an apprentice to a carpenter, working for his board and clothes and the privilege of attending school four months during the winterter. For three years and four months he was thus employed, during which time he thoroughly mastered the trade, including the making of doors, sash, etc.

On the 30th of December, 1863, Mr. Smith married Miss Mary J. Duff, who was born December 8, 1840. Her paternal great-grandfather come to this country from Scotland. The grandfather, John Duff, was born in Philadelphia, and at an early day removed to Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, where he spent the remainder of his life as a farmer. He married Winifred Couch, of Philadelphia, a daughter of William Couch, who was from Great Britain. Mrs. Smith's father, Charles Duff, was born May 24, 1816, in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood and engaged in farming for many years. There he was married, August 31, 1838, to Eliza Cunningham, who was born October 2, 1819, a daughter of Robinson and Mary J. (Lane) Cunningham, of the same county. Her father, a farmer of Huntingdon county, was born in that state, but his father was a native of England. Charles Duff continued to reside on the old home farm in Pennsylvania until 1865, when he came to Pontiac, Illinois, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land east of the corporation, which he improved and which continued to be his home throughout life. He also owned two hundred and forty acres of land north of Pontiac, and in all had about six hundred acres. He was one of the prominent and wealthy men of his community and was highly respected by all who knew him. He died September 9, 1873, and his wife passed away July 11, 1887. Both were earnest members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

After learning his trade, Mr. Smith began taking contracts and erected many buildings in Huntingdon, Centre and Clearfield counties, Pennsylvania. He met with excellent success, and although a young man he often employed eight hands. While erecting a large church in Kerwinsville, Clearfield county, he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and when the war broke out the work was dropped as most of his workmen entered the service. Returning to Tyrone, he aided in the construction of the one-mile trestle of the Tyrone and Clearfield Railroad at that place, remaining there until going to Oil City, Venango county, during the excitement of 1864. There he put down many wells, one of which was fourteen hundred feet deep and the average depth of the seventeen he drilled was six hundred and fifty feet. For this work he received one dollar per foot and an eighth interest in the well, which proved quite quite profitable, as the one dollar per foot paid all expenses, and he sold his eighth interest from eight hundred to two thousand dollars a well. On first going into the oil region he was engaged by the New York Oil Company, of which Mr. Hamilton, of New York, was president, in the erection of derricks. Mr. Hamilton noticing the rapidity with which he worked asked him how much a foot he would ask to drill the wells, and later asked him to name a sum per year as superintendent of all their wells. Not caring particularly to engage in that work, he named two thousand dollars per year, believing the sum greater than the company would be willing to pay. His terms, however, were accepted, and he remained with the firm one year, and then refused an offer of two thousand five hundred dollars a year to continue. Leaving the employ of the oil company he commenced drilling wells for himself, and his first well, which took him twenty-six days to drill, he sold for eighteen hundred dollars. During the time he spent there he made enough to purchase his father's farm of one hundred and sixty

acres for eight thousand dollars, and he operated the place one year.

At the end of that time Mr. Smith sold out and came to Pontiac, Illinois, and purchased a farm three-quarters of a mile east of the city, for which he paid fifty dollars per acre although it was poorly improved land. He built one of the largest and best barns in this section at that time. He fenced and tiled the land, bringing the first carload of tile into the county. This he bought in Joliet, paying thirty-seven dollars and a half per thousand for three inch tile. Previous to this he had put in some clapboard tile and finding that it benefited the land, he resolved to thoroughly tile it. Some of it is still in working order although in use for over thirty years. Mr. Smith's next purchase consisted of a quarter-section of land owned by Charles Duff, which adjoins the city, and he also bought one hundred acres of Mr. Duff north of his first home, making four hundred and twenty acres adjoining the town. All of this he has thoroughly tiled and improved, and being well located, it is now among the best and most valuable land of the county. At present he rents his farm property.

For two years Mr. Smith rented and operated a tile factory near town erected by H. C. Bruner, and met with success in that enterprise. In 1890 he erected a fine brick residence on the corner of Walnut and Washington streets, one of the first and best brick houses in the city at that time. It is heated by steam, lighted by electricity and supplied with all modern conveniences, while the lawn about the house is a quarter of a block in extent. Mr. Smith also erected a store building on Madison street opposite the court house and still owns that property. In 1893 he bought the coal shaft at Pontiac, which he operated a year, and sank a shaft within twenty-eight feet of the third vein of coal, afterward selling the same at a profit, being the only one to make any money in that venture. For the past two years he has again given his attention to the tile business and furnishes employment to seventeen men in manufacturing both brick and tile.

Mr. Smith began life for himself without a dollar, and in fact was sixty-two dollars and fifty cents in debt. As already stated he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade. For the first year he was to receive thirty dollars; the second year forty-five dollars; and the third year sixty dollars. Board was included and in addition he was to have four months schooling each year. The first year he was permitted to go to school, according to contract, but during the succeeding years on one pretext or another he was kept at work. On the advice of his mother he permitted his last year's wages to remain with his employer until the end of the year in order that he might have a means to purchase a set of carpenter's tools. His employer failed about the end of his third year, and he never received a cent. A local merchant kindly agreed to furnish him the set of tools needed and which amounted to sixty-two dollars and fifty cents, and wait his convenience in paying. Securing the outfit he went to work as a journeyman carpenter, and in due time paid for his tools and felt like a free man. On coming to Illinois, his father loaned him five hundred dollars, but the wealth he has since acquired has been secured through his own enterprise, good business ability and sound judgment.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three children, namely: Elizabeth is the wife of Cary W.

Hill, of Pontiac, and they have one son, Harold Smith; Charles is engaged in business with his father and now manages the tile works; and Winifred, twin sister of Charles, is the wife of Franklin Laver, who operates the home farm and they have one child, Alfred Veron.

During the Civil war, Mr. Smith was a member of the Pennsylvania militia, which was not supposed to leave the state, but they went to Hagerstown, Maryland, and participated in the battle of Antietam. At his home he could hear the cannonading at Gettysburg and also during the Morgan raid. He has served as school director, but has never cared for political honors, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

ERASTUS HOOBLER.

Erastus Hoobler, the present well-known circuit clerk, is one of the most prominent young men of Livingston county, a leader in political and business circles, and whether in public or private life he is always a courteous genial gentleman, well deserving the high regardd in which he is held.

A native of this county, Mr. Hoobler was born in Newtown township, December 11, 1867, and is a son of Andrew J. and Sarah (Leonard) Hoobler, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. He was educated in the public schools, which he attended constantly until eighteen years of age, and then began his business career as a merchant of Melville, he and his brother Wilder purchasing the store formery owned by their father and conducting it under the firm name of Hoobler Brothers. They did a large and successful business for some seven or eight years, being energetic and progressive young men of good business ability and industrial habits.

On the 9th of June, 1888, Mr. Hoobler was united in marriage with Miss Jodie Beach, a daughter of Anson and Phœbe Beach, formerly of La Salle county, and to them have been born one child, Ernest E. The parents both hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and Mr. Hoobler is now serving as one of the stewards of the church in Pontiac. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of Beacon Lodge, No. 618, I. O. O. F., of Cornell.

Since reaching man's estate Mr. Hoobler has always been active in Republican politics, doing all within his power for the success of his party. In the spring of 1894 he sold his store, and two years later was nominated as circuit clerk for Livingston county, to which office he was elected that fall by a handsome majority. He has since efficinetly discharged the duties of that position, and in 1900 was renominated by acclamation.

JAMES NICOL.

James Nichol is the proprietor of an excellent farm of two hundred and forty acres on sections 11 and 3, Pike township, Livingston county. The well-tilled fields and neat and thrifty appearance of the place testify to careful supervision of a painstaking owner—one who is a thorough farmer

and successful business man. He was born in Arbroath, Forfarshire, Scotland, June 6, 1849, a son of William and Jane (Simpson) Nicol, also natives of that country, where the mother spent her entire life. After her death the father married again. He was born in Forfarshire in 1813, a son of James Nicol, and in his native land was employed as a pattern or model maker. In 1865 he emigrated to the new world and came direct to Livingston county, Illinois, where he had previously purchased eighty acres of land on section 3, Pike township, where our subject now resides. At that time the tract was wild prairie land, but he at once commenced to fence, break and improve it. Later he built a good house and made many other permanent improvements. In connection with farming he also worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade and built many of the residences in his part of the county. As one of the prominent and honored citizens of his community, he was called upon to fill the offices of supervisor, justice of the peace, school director and clerk of the district some years. He was a man of sterling worth and strict integrity and was preeminently public spirited and progressive.

Reared in his native land, James Nicol received the advantages of a good common school education, and served a five-years' apprenticeship to the cabinetmaker's trade after which he worked as a journeyman for two years. In 1868 he decided to join his father in America and sailed from Glasgow to New York, landing in the latter city in September of that year. He proceeded at once to his father's home in this county, and for the first six months of his residence here he worked at the carpenter's trade. The following two years he engaged in farming and then went to Chicago, where he was employed at his trade for six months, returning to this county at the end of that time. He has since devoted his time to agricultural pursuits, and now owns the old homestead, which he has greatly imroved, and to which he has added one hundred and sixty acres, making a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres.

In Livingston county, November 24, 18873, Mr. Nicol was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Petrie, who was born, reared and educated in the same town as her husband, and is a daughter of William Petrie, who is still living in Scotland at the advanced age of seventy-nine years. By this union have been born seven children, namely: William P. and James, both farmers of this county; Mabel May, Alfred, Edward Arthur, D. Harry and Annie Edith, all at home.

In his political affiliations Mr. Nicol is an ardent Republican and cast his first presidential vote for Rutherford B. Hayes. He has been a delegate to county conventions, served as township clerk about seven years and was a member of the school board and clerk of the district twelve years. Socially, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen camp of Chenoa, and religiously is a member of the Presbyterian church, to which his wife also belongs. In all life's relations he has been true to every trust reposed in him, and is justly numbered among the valued and useful citizens of his community.

JOHN GUTHRIE.

John Guthrie, who for over a third of a century has been identified with the agricultural interests of Livingston county, and now makes his home on section 10, Pike

township, was born in the city of Glasgow, Scotland, December 26, 1827, a son of James and Jane (McMurtrie) Guthrie, who spent their entire lives in Scotland, mostly in Glasgow, locating there soon after their marriage. There all of their children were born in that city and both parents died. By trade the father was a stonecutter.

Our subject grew to manhood in his native land and obtained a good education in an Ayrshire village school. He served a four years' apprenticeship to the weaver's trade with his uncle, David McMurtrie, and then returned to Glasgow, where he worked in a factory, having charge of one department four years. Later he was employed in a wholesale store for three years, and then emigrated to America, in 1850, taking passsage on a sailing vessel at Greenock on the Clyde for Montreal, and arriving in the latter city after a stormy voyage of eight weeks. While in the Gulf of St. Lawrence the masts were broken and they were delayed two weeks at Sidney, Cape Breton, while new masts were set up. Mr. Guthrie and two other men worked all one night at the pumps in order to save the vessel from destruction. It was twelve weeks from the time he left home until he reached his destination in Kendall county, Illinois, in September, 1850. There he had an uncle living, while another uncle made the voyage with him. The following year he commenced work in Kendall county gathering corn for ten dollars per month, and, being unused to such work, the skin was worn from his fingers in a short time.

In 1852 Mr. Guthrie went to Madison county, Iowa, where he spent one year, and on his return to Illinois settled in Woodford county, where he worked by the month until 1864. During that year he purchased the farm in Pike township, Livingston county, where he now resides, but engaged in farming upon rented land in Tazewell county for two years, at the end of which time he located upon his own land, having since February, 1861, made it his home. He has planted an orchard and considerable small fruit, has divided his land into fields of convenient size by good fences, has erected a pleasant residence and substantial outbuildings and now has a well-improved and desirable farm of eighty acres.

In Tazewell county Mr. Guthrie was married, in 1864, to Miss Betsy Nicol, who was born and reared in Arbroath, Scotland, and came to the new world with her mother in 1853. She died, leaving no children, and for his second wife Mr. Guthrie married Mrs. Eliza (McCracken) McNeil, who was born and reared in Ireland. By her first married she has three children: Martha, wife of Henry Crabb, of Livingston county; Lizzie, wife of Charles Richardson, of Pike township, and James, a resident of Chicago. Mr. Guthrie has two children by his second marriage: David M. and Maggie May, both at home.

Since casting his first presidential ballot for General U. S. Grant, in 1868. Mr. Guthrie has been a stanch Republican, but has never cared for political honors. Both he and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian church of Chenoa, and are people of sterling worth and strict integrity.

JOHN H. CRUMBAKER.

John H. Crumbaker, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Avoca township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Muskingum county, Ohio, August 11, 1845,

and is a son of William A. and Margaret (Piper) Crumbaker, natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania, respectively. As children they went to Ohio, and after that continued to reside in that state for many years, the father being engaged in farming. In 1864 they came to Illinois and settled near Lexington, where they still reside on a farm of forty acres. Both are consistent members of the Methodist church, and in politics the father was formerly a Whig and is now a Republican. To them were born twelve children, two of whom died in infancy, while those who reached years of maturity are John H., our subject; Marion V., a Methodist Episcopal minister of Kankakee; Sarah C., wife of S. S. Smith, of Nebraska; Maria E., wife of William Stickler, postmaster of Lexington; Oliver M., a resident of Cropsey township, McLean county; Samuel, a resident of the state of Washington; Joanna, wife of J. C. Finley, of Nebraska; Jonas A., of Washington; Margaret, wife of H. Wilson, who lives near Lexington, Illinois; and Alice E., wife of Ralph Wilson, of Nebraska.

The early education of John H. Crumbaker was obtained in the common schools of Ohio, and after coming to Illinois with the family, at the age of eighteen years, he took an elective course at the Wesleyan University in Bloomington and also attended school in Onarga for a short time. Subsequently he taught school in different parts of McLean county during the winter months for sixteen years, while through the summer season he engaged in farming. In 1885 he came to Livingston county and first rented a farm near Wing. Since then he has lived in Avoca township and has made his home upon the J. L. McDowell farm of three hundred and ten acres since 1894. Two hundred acres of this tract are under cultivation and he devotes the same to the raising of grain.

On the 25th of March, 1869, Mr. Crumbaker married Miss Elizabeth Jane Wilson, who was born near Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1850, and they have become the parents of eight children, two of whom died in childhood. Those living are Victor A., who is preparing for the ministry at Du Pauw University of Indiana; William, who lives near Chalmers, Indiana, is married, and has two children, Bessie and an infant; D. Theodore, who is engaged in farming near Fairbury, and resides at home; Jonas K., George R. and John P., who are all at home assisting their father on the farm.

By his ballot Mr. Crumbaker supports the men and measures of the Republican party, has served as collector of his township two terms, town clerk two years and school director three years. Religiously, he is an active member and supporter of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has the confidence and respect of all who know him on account of his sterling worth and strict integrity.

SOLON C. DUNHAM.

Solon C. Dunham, a wellknown agriculturist of Eppards Point township, who owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and seventy-two acres on section 31, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Morgan county, October 18, 1848. His father, Ebenezer Dunham, was born in New Hampshire, in 1810, and was a son of William Dunham, also a native of the old Granite state. About 1831 Ebenezer Dunham came west and located in Morgan county, where he

married Catherine Sweet, a native of this state and a daughter of Peleg Sweet, one of the earliest settlers of that county. There Mr. Dunham followed farming some years, later spent about eighteen years in Washburn, Marshall county, and in 1865 came to Livingston county and purchased the farm on which our subject now resides. At that time it was a tract of wild prairie land, and to its improvement and cultivation he devoted his energies throughout the remainder of his life. There he died in 1884, honored and respected by all who knew him, and is still survived by his wife, who resides on the old homestead with her son.

During his boyhood and youth Solon C. Dunham attended the local schools and assisted his father in the labors of the farm, and after reaching man's estate took charge of the farm and business, which he has since carried on with marked success. He has erected a large, neat and substantial residence, built a commodious barn, and has made many other improvements, which add to the beauty and value of the place.

In this county, Mr. Dunham was married, in 1880, to Miss Anna Stuckey, who was born in England, but was reared in McLean and Livingston counties, Illinois. By this union have been born four children, namely: Ralph, Roscoe B., Earl and Inez, all at home. Mrs. Dunham and Mrs. Dunham's mother are members of the Baptist church and the family is widely and favorably known. In his political views Mr. Dunham is a stanch Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for General U. S. Grant, in 1872, but he has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. He is, however, a staunch friend of education, and has been an efficient member of the school board for some years.

E. W. PEARSON.

Among the pleasantest rural homes of Esmen township, Livingston county, is the one belonging to this gentleman on section 26, and his farm is one of the model places of that locality, being supplied with all modern conveniences and accessories needed by the progressive agriculturist of the present day.

Mr. Pearson was born in Miami county, Ohio, August 11, 1836, and belongs to a family which was founded in that state by his grandfather, Enos Pearson, a native of Virginia. His ancestry can be traced back to two peers of England, in which country the family was quite noted. Aaron Pearson, father of our subject, grew to manhood in Miami county, Ohio, and there married Rachel Moore, who was born in that state of German parentage. In early life the father followed farming and later engaged in the manufacture of lumber. He died in Ohio when our subject was about seven years old, his wife three years later. In their family were five children, four sons and one daughter, but only E. W., our subject, and John, a resident of Marion county, Ohio, are now living.

Our subject's school privileges during his boyhood were limited, and he is almost wholly self-educated. Being left an orphan, he was thrown upon his own resources when a lad of seven years. He grew to manhood upon a farm and remained in his native county until October, 1855, when he came to Illinois, joining his guardian in Bloomington. He came to this state by himself, driving across the country with a team of horses. In November of the same year he located in Livingston county and bought eighty acres of land in Odell township, to

E. W. PEARSON.

the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his attention until 1865, when he sold that place and bought one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land in Esmen township, where he now resides. He has since added to it an eighty-acre tract, making a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. He has erected a modern and commodious residence some distance from the road, and leading up to it is a nice driveway through grounds shaded by lovely evergreen and other shade trees. The land is well tiled, there are two good orchards upon the place and a flowing well, which, operated by a windpump, supplies the water both for house and stock. Besides this valuable property Mr. Pearson owns two well-improved farms near Hartley, O'Brien county, Iowa, one of two hundred and forty, the other of eighty acres, and has two farms of one hundred and sixty acres each in Colorado and one of three hundred and twenty acres in Kansas, used as cattle ranches. In connection with farming he has been engaged in buying and selling real estate. He is an energetic and progressive business man who carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes, and his prosperity is due entirely to his own well-directed and energetic efforts. He was one of the originators and charter members of the Pontiac Mutual Fire Insurance Company, organized in 1892, and was elected its first president, which position he has filled most satisfactorily since that time.

Returning to his old home in Miami county, Ohio, Mr. Pearson was married there, October 28, 1858, to Miss Rachel Sheafer, who was born in Pennsylvania, but was reared in that county, and is a daughter of Eckert Sheafer. By this union were born six children, namely: Rachel, at home; Abraham L., who is married and engaged in farming and fruit raising in California; Arthur, who is married and follows farming in Esmen township, Livingston county, Illinois; Emma, wife of R. E. Knapp, of Pontiac; Anna, wife of Robert Brunskill, a farmer of Esmen township; and Ida M., who was graduated at the State Normal School and has successfully engaged in teaching for some years, being first assistant principal of the Jefferson Park high school at El Paso at the present time.

Politically Mr. Pearson was formerly identified with the Republican party and cast his first presidental vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, but of late years has been independent in politics. He is a stanch friend of education, was elected a member of the school board of Odell when nineteen years of age and filled that position almost continually until moving to Esmen township. He has served as township treasurer since 1870 and at intervals has been a member of the county board of supervisors for about fifteen years, during which time he was a member of various committees and chairman of the building committee in charge of building the poor house after the death of Mr. Morrow. He has been a delegate to numerous county, congressional and state conventions of his party and to two national conventions, helping to nominate J. B. Weaver at the first Populist convention, and at the St. Louis convention, in 1896, helping to nominate Bryan and Watson. He is always to be found on the Populist county committee, having served as its chairman, and is popularily known as the father of the party in this county, and he has always taken an active and commendable interest in public affairs. He is pre-eminently public-spirited

and progressive, and as a citizen has always been found true to every trust reposed in him.

THOMAS JOHNSTON

Thomas Johnston, the well-known superintendent of the Pontiac Diamond Co-operative Coal Company of Pontiac Illinois, is a native of England, born in Staffordshire, April 20, 1884, and is a son of Thomas and Mary Ann (Brown) Johnston. The father was born in Ireland, but when quite young went to England, where he continued to make his home throughout life, dying March 12, 1878, at the age of sixty-seven years. The mother died on the 21st of the same month He was always a hard working man and for many years was foreman of an iron works in Staffordshire.

Our subject is the sixth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, nine of whom are still living, but he is the only one in this country. He obtained his education in the common schools of Staffordshire and learned the trade of an engineer in the employ of the Apedale Coal & Iron Company of that place, remaining with them five years. In the fall of 1880 he came to the United States, and first located in Streator, Illinois, where he engaged in coal mining, and afterward became engineer for the Chicago, Vermilion & Wilmington Coal Company at that place, but only remained with them a year or two. He was next employed as engineer with the Star Coal Company of Streator for three or four years, and for eleven years was with the Richard Evans Coal Company of the same place. In December, 1895, he came to Pontiac to take charge of a shaft at this place as engineer, and was thus employed until 1897, when the shaft was leased by the present co-operative company, of which Mr. Johnston is manager, being associated with five others: Thomas Velvin, president; Charles F. Acklin, treasurer; Walter Hogan, mine manager, and Mathew Dickman and William Schress, directors, all of whom reside in Pontiac. The shaft was leased for a period of fifteen years from October, 1899, and the entire management is with the six men mentioned. According to the present law only six men can work in one shaft, but the company has now sunk another escape shaft and can put more men to work so that they will be able to take out from two hundred and fifty to three hundred tons of coal per day.

Before leaving England Mr. Johnston was married, July 8, 1878, to Miss Mary Ann Pickerill, of Staffordshire, a daughter of Robert and Sarah (Eccles) Pickerill The father was a shoe manufacturer and followed that occupation throughout his active business life, but is now living a retired life in Staffordshire, at the age of seventy-seven years. The mother died in 1893, at the age of sixty-six. Only two of their family came to America: Mrs. Johnston and Anna, wife of Benjamin Copeland, a coal miner of Streator, Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Johnston have a family of four children, namely: Thomas Bowyer, born in Staffordshire, England, December 29, 1878, was educated in Streator, and is now living in Wenona, Illinois, where he is a hoisting engineer for the Wenona Coal Company. Sarah Ann, born in Staffordshire, June 9, 1880, is at home; Fannie, born in Livingston county, Illinois, June 19, 1883, graduated from the public schools of Pontiac in 1900, and Pearl, born in Fulton county, Illinois, January 3, 1890, is attending school.

By his ballot Mr. Johnston has always supported the men and measures of the Democratic party, but has never sought nor desired public office, though often urged by his friends to become a candidate. He is a prominent member and financial secretary of the Episcopal church of Pontiac, which his family also attend. He is also a member of Court Pride, Foresters of America, of Pontiac, of which he has served as trustee one term; is a member of the Court of Honor, No. 185, of Pontiac, and the National Brotherhood Association of Coal Hoisting Engineers. As a business man he is thoroughly reliable and the success that he has achieved in life is justly merited, for it is due entirely to his own industry, enterprise and good management. He has a good home, 411 East Prairie street, which he bought in 1898.

WILLIAM WOODING.

William Wooding, a retired farmer of Pontiac, who came to this country in the spring of 1869, is a typical self-made man, and in the following record of his career there is much to arouse respect and esteem. He has placed his reliance upon industry and perseverance, and by making the most of circumstances, however discouraging, has made his way to substantial success, his fine farm in Pike township being a tangible evidence of prosperity.

Mr. Wooding is a native of England, born in Yarley Hastings, Northamptonshire, November 17, 1831, and is a son of Jesse and Ann (Rainbow) Wooding, who were married September 13, 1828. The father was born in the same place in 1805, and there made his home until coming to this country two years after our subject crossed the Atlantic, but died the ninth day after landing at the home of our subject in New Jersey. The mother came to America with her husband and died here in 1871.

William Wooding acquired his education in the public schools of his native land. As a young man of nineteen years he emigrated to the United States and located first in Salem county, New Jersey, where he worked on a farm and also in a tile factory, which was probably the first started in the United States, the proprietor having sent to England for the machinery. Our subject and his brother worked for him five years and then came to Illinois, in 856, with the intention of starting a factory of their own, but finding land so cheap they resolved to engage in agricultural pursuits. After looking over the field Mr. Wooding located near Farmington, Fulton county, where he engaged in farming for nine years.

In the spring of 1869 he came to Livingston county and in partnership with his brother purchased a farm of two hundred and sixty acres in Pike township, which they improved and operated together for a time, but finally divided the property. Our subje ct still owns an excellent farm of one hundred and eighty-one acres in that and Eppards Point township, which he has thoroughly tiled and transformed into one of the most highly cultivated and productive tracts in the locality. It is hedged and cross hedged and improved with good and substantial buildings, which stand as a monument to his thrift and enterprise. In connection with general farming he engaged in stock raising quite extensively, and usually had a carload of hogs for shipment each fall. Besides his farm in this county, he owns land in Indiana,

which he is now improving; he built a good home at No. 303 West Moulton street, at the corner of Plum street, Pontiac, where he has resided since the spring of 1896, having retired from active labor to enjoy a well earned rest.

Mr. Wooding has been twice married, his first wife being Amanda Humphry, a native of Washington county, Indiana. He tootook her to Kearney, Nebraska, in 1885, with the hope of benefiting herhealth, but she died there the same fall, leaving three children, namely: Mary, now the wife of Perry Morton, of Pontiac, by whom she has two children, Mabel and Leonora; Lucy, wife of Wesley Porter, of Owego township, by whom she has two sons, Harry and Charles; and William, who married Leona Perry, and has two children, Orville and Hazel Lorena. He lives on the home farm in Pike township.

Returning to England in 1887, Mr. Wooding there married Miss Mary Berrill, of Yardley Hastings, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Morris) Berrill, and by this union has been born a daughter, Winifred. For twenty-five years Mrs. Wooding's sister, Sarah Berrill, has held the position of maid with Lady Southampton, who is a lady in waiting on Queen Victoria, and as such makes all the trips with the Queen's escort. Her father, John Berrill, was a native of Northampton, where his ancestors have resided for at least three or four generations, and on the maternal side Mrs. Wooding is of an old and respected family that for many generations have been born on the Marqnis of Northampton's estate. Her grandfather Morris was a shepherd by occupation. The records of the family are to be found in the parish church. In tracing his ancestry back five or six generations, Mr. Wooding finds that he springs from the same family as his wife. His mother, Elizabeth Rainbow, was a daughter of James and Elizabeth Ratley, and the latter was a daughter of John and Ann Berrill, who were the great-grandparents of Mrs. Wooding. Her grandfather was Richard, who in turn was a son of John and Ann Berrill, previously mentioned. All were residents of Yardley Hastings.

Mr. and Mrs. Wooding have traveled quite extensively, and visited their native land again in 1890. He has ever taken an active interest in educational affairs and most efficiently served as school director of his township while residing in the country. He is a consistent and faithful member of the Baptist church, and one of the highly respected and honored citizens of the community.

JAMES MURPHY.

James Murphy, the well-known engineer of the water works in Pontiac, Illinois, was born in Campbellford, Northumberland county, Ontario, Canada, August 7, 1854, and is a son of Peter and Ann (Spence) Murphy. The father was born in Newray, County Down, Ireland, about 1822, and there gained a thorough knowledge of the shoemaker's trade. When a young man he emigrated to Canada, where he married Ann Spence, a native of Nottingham, England, who had moved to Canada with an aunt after the death of her prents. In 1864 they came to Pontiac and were among the early property owners of the city, building their own house on west Water street. Throughout the greater part of his life the father engaged in mining. He died in

April, 1895, the mother April 16, 1899. Both were devout members of St. Mary's Catholic church, and were highly respected by all who knew them.

This worthy couple left a family of eight children, of whom our subject is the second in order of birth. He began his education in Canada and after the removal of the family to Pontiac attended the public schools here for a time. After the completion of his education he was variously employed for a time, but for the past twenty-five years he has been principally engaged in running stationary engines, operating some of the first ever brought to Pontiac. In 1884 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of wild land in York county, Nebraska, which he converted into a well improved farm, and there he successfully engaged in mixed farming for some time, during which period the country was well settled up and became a thriving agricultural district. He was one of the school directors in his township for four years, during which time a school house was built in his district. Renting his farm he returned to Pontiac in 1896 and was appointed engineer of the water works, which position he has since filled in a most efficient and satisfactory manner, having charge of two Gordon pumps with a capacity of one million and five hundred thousand gallons daily, which are fully taxed most of the time. These are kept running day and night, his son serving as night engineer. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

On the 14th of September, 1881, Mr. Murphy was united in marriage with Miss Bridget Sullivan, and to them have been born four children, namely: James, who is an engineer with his father; Katie, Joseph and Mary. Michael Sullivan, Mrs. Murphy's father, was born in Limerick, Ireland, and as ayoung man came to America. After some time spent in New York state he came to Chicago, and entered the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, aiding in its construction from Dwight to Bloomington. Being pleased with this locality he located in Pontiac when it was a very small village, being among its early residents, building a home on North Vermillion street. At Lake Station he had previously married Catherine Arman, of Chicago, who was born in Waterford, county Cork, Ireland, and prior to her marriage worked in New York and latter in Chicago. They were members of the Catholic church, and before a church was established in Pontiac mass was said at the homes of the different members. In 1880 they, too, removed to York county, Nebraska, and purchased a tract of one hundred and sixty acres adjoining our subject's farm, and upon that place Mr. Sullivan died June 2, 1885, his wife, February 21, 1896. In their family were only two children, William, a resident of Nebraska; and Bridget, wife of our subject.

LARS ENGELSEN.

Lars Engelsen, a well-known agriculturist residing on section 10, Esman township, Livingston county, was born in Norway, July 12, 1845, and is the only child of Engel and Ella (Mickleson) Engelsen, also natives of that country, where the father followed farming until his death in 1852. Five years later the wife and son came to America on a sailing vessel, and were about three weks in crossing the Atlantic from Bergen to Quebec. They proceeded at once to

Morris, Grundy county, Illinois, and in the fall of the same year moved to La Salle county, where Mrs. Engelsen was married, in 1859, to Torris Johnson, also a Norwegian by birth and a cooper by trade, following that ocupation in Dayton, Illinois, for many years. Later they moved to Indian Creek, the same county, where Mrs. Johnson died.

Lars Engelsen lived with his mother and step-father until grown, and received a fair education in the schools of La Salle county. He began life for himself as a farm hand and was thus employed for several years before and after his marriage. He subsequently rented land. In 1868 he came to Livingston county and located upon his present farm in 1880, it being a part of the large tract of land owned by Apollos Camp of Pontiac, for whom our subject worked about seven years and who virtually gave him the place. Mr. Engelsen has erected thereon a large and substantial residence, a good barn and other outbuildings, and has made many other improvements upon the farm. In connection with its operations he also cultivates about one hundred acres more, and has been quite successful in his farm business.

On the 14th of February, 1865, Mr. Engelsen was married in La Salle county, to Miss Anna Dora Engelsen, who was born and reared in Norway, and when a young lady came to America, where she attended the English schools for a short time. By this union were born six children who are still living, namely: Engle B., a resident of Iowa; Elmer T., of North Dakota; Joseph E., who is in this county; Milton L., Bertha E. and Ellen M., all at home. Those deceased were James M., who died at the age of seventeen years; Lilly A., who died at the age of eighteen; Bertha and Angeline, who died of scarlet fever at the age of four and two years, respectively, and one who died in infancy.

Mr. Englesen has been a stanch Republican since casting his first vote for General U. S. Grant in 1868, but he has never cared for political preferment. In the spring of 1900 he was elected township assessor, and for some years was a member of the school board in Pontiac township. Religiously, he and his wife and daughters are members of the Lutheran church, while some of his sons hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. His life has been one of industry and perseverance and he is deserving of the high regard in which he is held.

PATRICK H. KANE.

Patrick H. Kane, the genial and popular proprietor of the Transient House of Pontiac, which is conveniently located near the Chicago & Alton Railroad depot, was born in Holyoke, Massachusetts, March 14, 1860, a son of John and Mary (Lannan) Kane. The father was a native of Ireland and as a young man came to America, locating first in Massachusetts, where he worked in the woolen mills for many years, being night foreman for some time. On leaving that state in 1863 he came to Illinois and settled five miles southwest of Ottawa, La Salle county, where he engaged in farming, later following the same pursuit in Allen township, the same county. Selling out he came to Livingston county and took up his residence in Nevada township, but his last days were spent as a farmer in Sullivan township, where he held different township

offices. He was a Democrat in politics and one of the early members of the Catholic church of Dwight. He died in July, 1895, and his wife passed away in the fall of 1881.

During his boyhood our subject attended the public schools of La Salle and Livingston counties, and at the age of eighteen years began life for himself by working as a farm hand, having become thoroughly familiar with that occupation on his father's farm. Subsequently he went to Nebraska and entered the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad as brakeman on the line running from Lincoln to Valparaiso and later to Strawnsburg on the main line, remaining with the company four years and four months, after which he returned to Illinois.

Mr. Kane was married, July 2, 1881, the day President Garfield was shot, to Miss Rosa Young, a native of Lincoln, Illinois, and a daughter of Joseph Young, one of the early farmers of Saunders county, Nebraska. They lived in Valparaiso, Nebraska, early in 1883, before returning to Pontiac, where Mr. Kane worked for H. C. Bruner as foreman and burner at his tile and brick works, doing all the burning until he severed his connection with that gentleman in June, 1896. For two years he had entire charge of the plant and burned eighteen or nineteen kilns a week. Later he was with John H. Smith, when he run the factory, and had the entire confidence and respect of both gentlemen. Before leaving their employ he built a house in River View addition to Pontiac, which he traded in 1895 for a hotel in Clay City, Illinois, but after conducting the latter for a year he returned to Pontiac, where he engaged in the restaurant, bakery and confectionery business until May 24, 1899, when he bought the Transient House and has since successfully engaged in the hotel business. It is a nice two-story frame building, and in connection with this Mr. Kane owns a large lot. He also has a good house and lot on Madison street and has successfully engaged in the real estate business for himself, having owned a number of different places. He is a good, reliable business man, and the prosperity that has attended his efforts is certainly justly merited.

Mr. Kane's first wife died while on a visit to her old home, in 1888, leaving two children, Elvira and Sadie, who are now being educated in a convent. In 1894 he married Mrs. Nancy Adams, of Pontiac, a daughter of Samuel Garner, who was one of the pioneer residents of this city and at one time a prominent property owner.

As a Democrat Mr. Kane has ever taken an active part in local politics, but has never been an aspirant for office, though he took a leading part in the political affairs of the first ward, and is to-day one of the most prominent Democrats in the ward where he is now living.

SAMUEL H. BOYER.

Samuel H. Boyer, a well-known liveryman and highly respected citizen of Dwight, Illinois, was born in Blair county, Pennsylvania, July 25, 1858, a son of George W. and Mary Ann (Turnbaugh) Boyer. The Boyer family is of German origin and was founded in this country in early colonial days. His great-grandfather, John Boyer, was born in America, and throughout life engaged in farming in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. The grandfather, George Boyer, was born in that county, in 1800, and married Lydia Rupp, daughter of Jacob Rupp, who lived near Reading, and belonged

to a family of German origin, which was founded in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, soon after the landing of William Penn. To George and Lydia (Rupp) Boyer were born six children: Jacob, John, George W., William, Samuel and Sarah. The father of this family died in Pennsylvania, at the age of sixty-eight years. He was a Lutheran in religious belief and a Republican in politics.

George W. Boyer, father of our subject, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, February 20, 1827, and accompanied his parents on their removal to Blair county, that state, where he engaged in farming several years. He was reared on a farm and received a common-school education. On the 24th of May, 1849, he married Mary Ann, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Cherry) Turnbaugh, who were of German ancestry and lived near Altoona, Blair county. By this union were born seven children, namely: Henry, who married Nellie Morris; Annetta, who married James B. Austin; Samuel H., our subject; Sarah C., wife of Dwight P. Mills; Climenia E., now Mrs. Muro Bertholic; Alfred A., of Dwight; and George W., who died at the age of twelve years. The father was a member of Company E, One Hundred and Fourth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, during the latter part of the Civil war, and was honorably discharged at Philadelphia, after which he returned to his home in Blair county. In 1867 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased a farm on section 20, Dwight township, where he resided until a few years ago, when he retired to Dwight. He has always affiliated with the Republican party and has held several township offices, including those of school director and road commissioner. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

Samuel H. Boyer was only nine years of age on the removal of the family to this county, and in the schools of Dwight township he acquired his education. He remained at home until twenty-five years of age. On the 30th of January, 1884, Mr. Boyer was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Lower, also a native of Blair county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Samuel and Mary E. (Downs) Lower, who were born in the same state. In early life her father learned the blacksmith's trade, which he continued to follow until his retirement recently from active labor. He brought his family to Illinois in 1865 and first located in Lanark, but a few years later came to Dwight, where he has since made his home, with the exception of a short time spent in farming in Broughton township, this county. In 1891 he built a hotel in Dwight, to which he gave the name of Pennsylvania House, and which he conducted for seven years, and where he still resides. In his family were ten children, of whom seven are now living, Mrs. Boyer being the second in order of birth. Her mother died in February, 1898. To our subject and his wife have been born five children, namely: Harvey, Elwood, Clarence, Ira and Ralph.

After his marriage Mr. Boyer engaged in farming upon rented land for a time and then operated Mr. Lower's farm in Broughton township for six years. In the fall of 1891 he built a large livery stable in Dwight and to that place he removed in January of the following year, and has since devoted his time and attention to the livery business with good success.

In politics Mr. Boyer is a Republican, but

has never been an aspirant for office. He attends the Methodist Episcopal church and affiliates with Dwight Camp, No. 270, S. of V., of which he is captain; Hebron Lodge, No. 513, I. O. O. F., and Dwight Court of Honor, No. 508.

JOHN CRABB.

John Crabb, who is industriously engaged in agricultural pursuits upon a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 9, Pike township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Forfarshire, Scotland, July 1, 1839, a son of James and Cecelia (Monroe) Crabb, also natives of that country, where the mother died. The father was of English descent.

Our subject was reared and educated in his native land and for three years prior to his emigration to America he worked in a foundry. At the age of eighteen he decided to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic and took passage on a sailing vessel at Montrose. The voyage lasted six weeks, during which time they encountered two severe storms, but finally landed at Quebec in safety in August, 1857, and proceeded at once to Tazewell county, Illinois, where his brothers, Henry and Archie, had previously located. They were joined by their father two or three years later and he made his home in this country throughout the remainder of his life, dying in 1875 at the ripe old age of eighty-one years.

At first John Crabb worked on a farm by the month and later he and his brother, Archie, rented land and engaged in farming together for seven years. At the end of that period the property was divided and our subject came to Livingston county and purchased a tract of raw prairie land in Pike township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until 1889, when he sold that place and bought his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 9, the same township. At that time it was only slightly improved, but he has remodeled the residence, tiled the land, erected good outbuildings and made many other improvements, transforming it into a most desirable farm.

On the 25th of December, 1865, in Livingston county, Mr. Crabb was united in marriage with Miss Hannah E. Capes, a sister of David D. Capes, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. She was born in Lincolnshire, England, but was only three years old when brought to this country by her father, Willoughby Capes, who first settled in Tazewell county, Illinois, but later came to Livingston county. Mr. and Mrs. Crabb have a family of seven children, namely: Charles, who is married and engaged in farming in this county; Walter, at home; Ada, wife of Henry Beeks, a farmer of Benton county, Indiana; Elizabeth, wife of Lucius Phillips, a farmer of Pike township, this county; Dora, Ethel and Zephyr, all at home.

Politically, Mr. Crabb was originally a Republican, but of late years has supported the Democratic party, and being a friend of temperance he takes an interest in the Prohibition movement. He was an efficient member of the school board for some years and gives his support to every enterprise which he believes calculated to advance the moral, educational or social welfare of the community in which he lives. Religiously, both he and his estimable wife are earnest and consistent members of the Bethel Methodist Episcopal church.

CHARLES A. McGREGOR.

Few men are more prominent or more widely known in the enterprising city of Pontiac than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He was born in Wilmington, Clinton county, Ohio, March 14, 1843, and is a son of John H. McGregor, who was born in Orange county, North Carolina, August 30, 1814. The grandfather, John McGregor, a native of the highlands of Scotland, settled in North Carolina on his emigration to this country, and there he was a professor in an educational institution and also a land owner. When his son, John H., was three years old he removed with his family to Green River, Kentucky, where he purchased a large amount of land, but seven years later disposed of his property there and moved to Clinton county, Ohio, where he bought more land, making his home there throughout the remainder of his life.

John H. McGregor, father of our subject, was educated in Louisville, Kentucky, and was admitted to the bar in Clinton county, Ohio. In Wilmington, Ohio, he was married, October 3, 1838, by Rev. Joseph L. Irvin, to Miss Mary J. Buxton, who was born in Warren county, that state, March 27, 1821, a daughter of Charles and Eliza (Vandoren) Buxton. Her father, who was of English birth, died when she was only four years old. At an early day the father of our subject removed to the territory of Iowa and located in Davenport, owning the original claim on which that city was founded in partnership with his brother and another gentleman. In 1850 he removed to Ottawa, Illinois, where he engaged in the practice of law, having his office with Dr. Stout, the noted abolitionist, and in October, 1852, before the railroad was built, came to Pontiac, where he was first engaged in practice with Mr. DeWitt, the earliest attorney of the place, but later was a member of the firm of McGregor & Dart. He erected one of the first buildings of any size in the town, the lumber being hauled from Ottawa, a distance of forty miles, and was one of the most prominent citizens of Pontiac in that day, as well as one of the leading lawyers of this section of the state, being [illegible] Caton and other illustrious men. He died January 5, 1856, honored and respected by all who knew him. His wife is still living and is one of the two surviving charter members of the Presbyterian church of Pontiac. He left five children, namely: Elizabeth, who married A. J. Laws, but is now deceased; Emma, Charles A., Alonzo H. and H. Burton, all residents of Pontiac.

The [illegible] Charles A. McGregor [illegible] in the public schools [illegible] supplemented by a course at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He left college to return home and enlisted in the spring of 1863, joining Company C, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was then stationed in front of Richmond. From that time on he was in all the engagements in which his regiment took part, including the battles around Petersburg, and after Lee's surrender did provost duty, remaining in the service until December, 1865, when he was honorably discharged.

Returning to Pontiac Mr. McGregor was interested in a grocery store one year. He had been practically brought up in the drug business, as from the age of thirteen years he had worked in a drug store when not in school until he entered the army, and so had acquired a very good knowledge of that

business. As a clerk he had charge of the grocery store of Mr. Turner, but also received a percentage of the profits, and so was really interested in the business. In 1867, in partnership with J. A. Caldwell, under the firm name of Caldwell & McGregor, he embarked in the drug business on his own account on Mill street, where business was carried on for a number of years, but in 1872 they built a fine block on the corner of Mill and Madison streets, which at that time was the best business house in the city, it being 20x110 feet in dimensions and two stories in height. Here Mr. McGregor is still engaged in business, occupying all of the main floor, part of the second and most of the basement. The firm built up the largest drug trade in this section of the state and about twenty years added to their stock a fine line of jewelry and silverware, which proved quite profitable. They also dealt in books, stationery, wall paper, etc. They erected the building adjoining their store and also owned another where the Sterry block now stands. In February, 1895, Mr. McGregor purchased his partner's interest and has since been alone in business. He has erected a number of business blocks, owning five buildings on the main business streets of the city besides the one he occupies, and also has considerable residence property and, with his children, owns several farms. He was one of the early stockholders of the Livingston County National Bank and an original stockholder of the Pontiac National Bank, as well as a director of both. In business affairs he is energetic, prompt and notably reliable and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 23d of November, 1871, Mr. McGregor married Miss Eunice J. Johnson, a native of Johnson's Cross Roads, Greenbrier county, Virginia, and a daughter of Morris Johnson, who came to Pontiac about 1860 and was here engaged in general merchandising and the stock business for many years. By this union were born five children, of whom three still live: Bernice E.; Ellis J., now a student in the law department of the University of Michigan; and Lewis C., at home. The wife and mother, who was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church and a most estimable woman, died in January, 1888. Mr. McGregor holds membership in the Presbyterian church and for many years has been a trustee of the same. He also took an active part in Sunday school work for some years. He has never had time nor inclination for political affairs, though he has served as alderman from his ward and ever stands ready to discharge any duty devolving upon him.

HON. LABAN M. STROUD.

Hon. Laban M. Stroud, who is now living a retired life on his farm near Pontiac, has been a resident of the state since 1830. He is a native of Tennessee, born near the city of Nashville, Dixon county, September 27, 1822, and is the son of Thomas and Sally (Thompson) Stroud, the former a native of North Carolina, born in 1791, and the latter a native of Virginia and daughter of Neal Thompson, who located in Tennessee in 1789, and there became a large and wealthy planter and where the remainder of his life was passed. Thomas Stroud was a son of Jesse and grandson of Peter Stroud, both of whom were natives of North Carolina, but of English and Irish ancestry. Jesse Stroud moved from North

Carolina to Tennessee and located in Obion county, where he owned a large plantation and a number of slaves.

Thomas Stroud grew to manhood in Tennessee and in 1812 married Sally Thompson, by whom he had a family of two sons and seven daughters, two only of the number now living, our subject and his sister, Mrs. Artimissa Higgs, now living with our subject. The other members of the family were Cassa R., Fanetta, Sinia Sabury, Ellen, Obedience Lee, Mourning Tilford, Julian and Milton P.

Thomas Stroud was a soldier in the war of 1812 and served under General Jackson. He was a planter in Tennessee for some years after his marriage, but, with the desire to better provide for his family, he came to Illinois in 1830, first stopping in Sangamon county, where he spent one season, and then moved to that portion of Tazewell county which was later detached and now forms the county of Logan. On settling in the latter county he took up a claim of one hundred and sixty acres, a part of which was government land, which he improved and on which he continued to live until his death, March 7, 1858. His wife passed away in 1857.

The subject of this sketch was eight years of age when he came with his parents to Illinois. His educational advantages were limited, but his advantages for work were not. The farm was to be improved, crops were to be planted and harvested, and he must do his share of the work. In his youth, however, he learned the carpenter's trade with his uncle, Colonel S. M. Thompson, but he continued to make his home with his parents until some years after attaining his majority.

On the 7th of April, 1847, Mr. Stroud was united in marriage with Miss Elvy Adams, who was born in Bedford county, Tennessee, January 9, 1826, and daughter of Captain John G. Adams, a native of one of the Carolinas, but who came to Illinois and located in Tazewell county in 1828, when his daughter was but two years old. He was in command of a cavalry company in the Black Hawk war and was killed by the Indians. His wife was so shocked by the death of her husband that she lost her mind and never recovered, though she lived many yeard afterward., dying when seventy-five years old. The family were of Scotch ancestry and were early settlers of North Carolina, from which state they moved to Tennessee and later to Illinois.

After his marriage Mr. Stroud bought one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land, which he improved and on which he continued to live until 1879, in the meantime adding to its area until it comprised a well improved farm of four hundred and twenty-five acres. Renting his place he moved to Minier, where he bought residence property and where he made his home for ten years. He then came to Livingston county and took up his residence on his farm adjoining the city of Pontiac, which he purchased at that time, comprising one hundred and sixty-three acres, all of which is under improvement. He had previously, in 1885, purchased a farm of four hundred acres lying northeast of the city of Pontiac.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stroud seven children were born. Louisa is the wife of H. H. Darnell, of Tazewell county, Illinois. Martha is the wife of William Neal Mountjoy, of Logan county, Illinois. Thomas Frank resides in Omaha, Nebraska. Mrs. Sarah Jane Livesay is a resident of Livingston county. Parmelia Annie resides at home.

John G. is married and is engaged in farming in Livingston county. Warren M. is carrying on the home farm. After fifty-two years of a happy wedded life Mrs. Stroud passed to her reward December 5, 1899, while on a visit to the old neighborhood in Logan county, where so many years of her life were spent. Her remains were laid to rest in the Niblack cemetery, there to wait the resurrection day. She was a faithful helpmeet to her husband, to whom she was greatly attached, and was a most loving mother. The family and all who knew her in this life will always hold her in grateful remembrance.

Politically Mr. Stroud is a Jackson Democrat and he has been an earnest advocate of the principles of his party throughout life. His first presidential vote was cast for James K. Polk in 1844, and from that time to the present the nominee of his party has always received his ballot. By his fellow citizens he has been honored with various local offices, serving for many years as a member of the county board of supervisors. In 1872 he was elected by his party a member of the General Assembly, the district comprising the counties of Tazewell and Logan, and served two years, during which time he served on several improtant committees and was known as a working member. Believing that others should serve, he declined further political honors. Since he was eighteen of age Mr. Stroud has been a member of the Christian church and has ever taken an interest in the work of the church and in the evangelization of the world. His good wife was also a member of the same church. At the present time his membership is with the church in Pontiac.

Like thousands of the well-to-do men of this country, Mr. Stroud began life with but little means, but he had health, a good constitution, a stout heart and willing hands. He was not afraid of work, and with temperate habits and an earnest desire to do right with his fellow men, he has labored on until to-day he is the owner of six well improved farms, comprising about two thousand acres, and is well content to live a quiet life, enjoying the fruits of his labor in the past, while others shall take up the more active duties. Well known and universally respected, he can quietly review the past with the satisfaction of one who has not lived in vain, while those that know him can feel that the world is better for the life that he has lived.

WILLIAM T. CRAWFORD.

William T. Crawford, a prominent horse dealer, who has since 1875 been an active factor in the business life of Pontiac, Illinois, was born in New York City October 13, 1832, and is a son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Turner) Crawford, the former a native of Ireland, the latter of New York, where their marriage was celebrated, the father having come to this country when a young man. Meeting with business reverses in the metroplis, he removed to Harrison county, Ohio, where he took up land and commenced life anew in very limited circumstances. Though the country where he settled was hilly and stony and covered with a heavy growth of timber, he steadily prospered, and by hard work, good management and close economy he became possessed of considerable land, being quite well off at the time of his death, which occurred in November, 1889. The mother died on the old home farm in 1897. Both were faithful

members of the Methodist Episcopal church and were highly esteemed in the community where they made their home.

The subject of this sketch began his education in the schools of New York City, but was only eight years old when the family removed to Ohio. The school house nearest his father's home was two miles distance and the path lay through the woods. His mother went with him the first day, carrying a hatchet, with which she marked the trees that he might find his way home again at night. The school proved quite different from the one he had attended in the city, but he managed to acquire a good practical education. On leaving home, in 1854, at the age of twenty-one years, he went to Scott county, Iowa, and spent one year on a farm some twenty miles west of Davenport.

Mr. Crawford then returned home and was married, February 14, 1856, to Miss Sarah Johnston, daughter of Andrew Johnston, who was of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and to them have been born six children, namely: Elizabeth, now the wife of Charles Strevelle, of Salt Lake City, Utah; George A., who is in business with his father and has served as alderman in Pontiac; Ada, wife of Albert Dolde; Elmer, a resident of Montana; William, who has been connected with the National Bank of Pontiac for some years; and Maude, at home.

In the spring of 1856, a short time after his marriage, Mr. Crawford moved to Bloomington, Illinois, where he followed farming for three years, and then bought a farm in Tazewell county, which he operated six years. His next home was a farm northwest of Bloomington, on which was laid out the town of Yuton, and on selling that place he moved to Bloomington, where he was engaged in the horse and cattle business for a number of years, becoming a very extensive shipper of cattle and hogs. He was among the first from that city to send cattle to the Union stockyards, Chicago, to be sold on commission, and was the first to ship horses there for that purpose. He owned the first car-load of horses ever put in the old brick barn known as the Cooper barn, and has handled those animals on quite an extensive scale ever since. He buys mainly in Iowa and Montana, and sells from three to five hundred western horses every year, dealing in draft horses and fine drivers. No one in this section handles as many as the Crawfords—father and son—and they have met with most excellent success. Although he has traveled so extensively in the interests of his business and been brought in contact with all classes of people, Mr. Crawford has never tasted intoxicating drinks, and has led a most exemplary life, commanding the respect and confidence of all who know him. He has never taken an active part in politics, preferring to give his undivided attention to his business interests.

JOHN DENEHE.

It is said that biography yields to no other subject in point of interest and profit and is is especially interesting to note the progress that has been made along various lines of business by those of foreign birth, who have sought homes in America—the readiness with which they adapt themselves to the different methods and customs of America, recognize the advantages offered and utilize the opportunities which the new world affords. We find a worthy representative of this class in John Denehe, the

present foreman of the locomotive and car department at the round house in Dwight, which is the end of the Peoria division of the Chicago & Alton Railroad.

Mr. Denehe was born in county Waterford, Ireland, December 23, 1846, a son of Edward and Margaret Denehe, farming people, who spent their entire lives in that country. Our subect grew to manhood on the home farm with very limited educational advantages. At the age of twenty years he crossed the ocean alone and landed on American soil, a stranger in a strange land. He stopped first in New York, and remained about three years in that city and vicinity, where he was employed as a gardener and farm laborer.

At Flatbush, New York, Mr. Denehe was married, August 2, 1868, to Miss Bridget Taylor, a native of county West Meath, Ireland, who came to this country about the same time as her husband. They have three sons: Thomas E., inspector and repairer of cars at Dwight; William, who married Emma Smith, of Dwight, and is now a fireman on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and John F., at home.

After his marriage Mr. Denehe moved to Valparaiso, Indiana, where he worked in a saw-mill one season, and then went to Lemont, Illinois, where he was employed on the construction of the canal two years. In 1871 he took up his residence in Bloomington and entered the shops of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, where he worked as car truck builder until the fall of 1872. Needing a reliable man at Dwight, the company sent Mr. Denehe there in September of that year to take charge of the car department. He held that position until 1885, when he was promoted to foreman, in which capacity he has since served the road to their entire satisfaction. He has under him four men in the car department and seven in the locomotive department, besides seven regular train crews. He also has charge of their shop at Washington, Illinois, and for some time had charge of those at Lacon and Streator. He came to the new world with the hope of making his fortune and his dreams have been more than realized, and he is to-day a well-to-do man. Besides his pleasant residence in Dwight, erected by him in 1874, he has a fine farm of six hundred and twenty acres in Trego county, Kansas. He is intelligent and well informed and that he has proved an efficient and valued employee is proved by his long retention with one company, for he has now been with the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company for twenty-eight years. His success in life is due entirely to his own well-directed and energetic efforts, for he came to this country empty-handed and has had to make his own way in the world unaided. He and his family are communicants of the Catholic church, and he is identified with the Republican party. He takes an active interest in public affairs and has efficiently served as school trustee. Fraternally, he is a member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and was one of the charter members of the lodge in Dwight. He has held all the offices in the lodge, being active in the order as well as in public affairs.

HERMAN LOMMATSCH.

Many of the most enterprising and progressive farmers of Livingston county have come from the land beyond the sea, and although they had no capital when they lo-

cated here they are now prosperous and successful. Among the most prominent of these is Herman Lommatsch, who owns and occupies on excellent farm of three hundred and twenty acres on sections 23 and 24, Pike township, and also has property elsewhere in the county.

He was born in Saxony, Germany, October, 27, 1835, and was reared on a farm in his native land, at the same time attending school for eight years. In 1854, at the age of nineteen, he came to America with his father, William Lommatsch, taking passage on a sailing vessel at Bremen and arriving in New York after a voyage of six weeks. They proceeded at once to Cincinnati, and from there went to Ripley county, Indiana, where for five years our subject assisted his father in opening up a farm.

There Mr. Lommatsch was married, in June, 1859, to Augusta Fellwock, also a native of Saxony, who came to the new world when a girl of twelve years and grew to womanhood in Indiana. By this union have been born nine children, namely: Emma, wife of Jonathan Chicodanse, a farmer of Pike township, Livingston county; Laura, wife of Fred Altman, of the same county; Theodore, who is married and lives on the farm in Pike township, where Mr. Lommatsch first settled; Louis, who is married and follows farming in the same township; Charles, who is married and engaged in business in Chenoa; Herman L., a farmer of Eppards Point township; Melan, a farmer, at home; Lena and Nettie, both at home.

After his marriage Mr. Lommatsch continued to engage in farming upon his father's place in Ripley county, Indiana, for two years. In 1861 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased eighty acres of land in Pike township, but for two years he operated a rented farm in Eppards Point township, and then located upon his own place, which he improved by the erection of a comfortable residence. That farm was his home for several years, during which time he added to it a tract of one hundred and forty acres adjoining, so that he had two hundred and twenty acres in all. Subsequently he purchased eighty acres where he now resides, and located thereon in 1878. He has extended the boundaries of his place until they now include three hundred and twenty acres, and to its improvement and cultivation he has devoted his energies with excellent results. He has erected a large, neat residence, a commodious barn, cribs and sheds, has tiled the land, set out shade and fruit trees, and has converted it into one of the most desirable farms in the township. Besides his valuable property he has another farm of one hundred and sixty-seven acres in Eppards Point township. His success is due to his industry, energy and perseverance, and comes as a fitting reward for honest toil. Politically, Mr. Lommatsch is a stanch Republican, and religiously he and his family are members of the Evangelical church.

JOSIAH N. BARR.

For forty-five years this gentleman has been identified with the agricultural interests of Livingston county, and now owns and operates a well-improved farm of one hundred and eighty acres on section 17, Esmen township. He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1833, and is a son of Jacob and Susan (Barr) Barr, also natives of Pennsylvania and of German de-

J. N. BARR.

scent. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Jacob Barr, Sr., was one of the pioneers of Lancaster county, where the family continued to make their home until 1836, when the parents of our subject moved to Clark county, Ohio, and there the father cleared and improved a farm. In that county they spent the remainder of their lives, the mother dying January, 1846, and the father in 1848. At the death of the mother there were seven children living, of whom five yet survive: Jacob, of Lawrence county, Illinois; Josiah N., our subject; Cyrus, of Dwight, Illinois; Susan, now Mrs. Kemp, of Iowa, and Laura B., now Mrs. Foy, a widow living in Washington county, Nebraska. The oldest daughter, Elizabeth, died in November, 1846.

Josiah N. Barr was fifteen years old at the time of his father's death. He then went to work for various farmers, and continued to be thus employed in that vicinity until he was twenty-one years old, in the meantime securing a fair common school education, and then came to Illinois, in 1854, locating first in Kane county, where he worked by the month as a farm hand for one year. At the end of that time he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 17, Esmen township, Livingston county, where he now resides, to its improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his energies with the exception of the time spent in his country's service during the Civil war. He broke about half of this tract before entering the army. It is now a well improved place, being tiled, fenced and under a high state of cultivation. The buildings are neat and substantial, and the whole farm indicates the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

On the 30th of August, 1862, Mr. Barr enlisted in Company M, First Illinois Artillery, which was organized at Camp Douglas and sent from there to Louisville, spending the time from October until the following February in Kentucky in pursuit of Morgan. They next went down the Ohio and up the Cumberland rivers, joining Rosecrans at Fort Donelson, where they were held in reserve for a time, afterward going to Nashville and Franklin. As a reserve corps they proceeded to Chickamauga, in which engagement they took part, it being their first important battle. Later they were in the battle of Missionary Ridge, and were sent with Sherman to relieve the forces at Knoxville. On the 2d day of May, 1864, they started on the Atlanta campaign, and for ninety days were under fire almost constantly. They participated in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain and assisted in the capture of Atlanta, after which the artillery was sent back to Chattanooga, where they were on duty until the following spring, and then proceeded to Cleveland, Tennessee, remaining there until the close of the war. Mr. Barr was honorably discharged at Camp Douglas July 25, 1865. He had lost but little time on account of sickness, and, although disabled for duty a short time, he was never in the hospital.

Mr. Barr was married, in Livingston county, December 24, 1872, to Miss Tinnie Annis, a native of London, England, and a daughter of Mr. Chalmers. As her father died when she was quite small, she was adopted by a Mrs. Annis, with whom she came to America during childhood. They located first in Vermont, but when she was about nine years of age moved to Nebraska, where she grew to womanhood. She died September 22, 1895, and was laid to rest in the Esmen cemetery. By this union were born four children, namely: Lutie, who is now keeping house for her father; Lorenzo

N., a pharmacist, who is now engaged in the drug business in Idaho, and Theda M. and Loren C., both at home.

Mr. Barr cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, in 1856, and as a Republican he has since taken an active and prominent part in local politics. He helped organize his township and was elected first collector, in which capacity he served for two years. He was township trustee six years, and at intervals has filled the office of supervisor for twelve years, during which time he served on various important committees. He has also been a delegate to numerous county conventions of his party, and whatever position he has been called upon to fill, it duties he has always faithfully and satisfactorily performed. He was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist church until it was disbanded, and now attends the Methodist Episcopal church, to which he contributes liberally. He takes quite an active and prominent part in church and Sabbath school work, and is now serving as superintendent of the Sabbath school. He has witnessed the wonderful development and progress made in this region in the last half-century, has seen Pontiac grow from a cross roads town of two stores to be one of the important cities in this section of the state, and in the work of advancement he has ever borne an active part and is numbered among the most useful and valued citizens of his community.

NELSON COUNTRYMAN.

Nelson Countryman, deceased, was for several years prominently identified with the business interests of Pontiac, where he located in 1859, and bore an active part in the early development of the city. He was born in St. Johnsville, New York, July 11, 1832, a son of Jacob Countryman. The father, who belonged to an old New York family, was a shipbuilder by trade, and also engaged in the practice of law in that state. For a time he made his home in Syracuse and later in Buffalo, and built many of the early lake boats. On coming west he soon located in Ottawa, Illinois, where he purchased land and engaged in farming until 1859, which year witnessed his arrival in Pontiac, where, as a well-to-do man he lived retired until his death, which occurred ten or fifteen years later. He erected one of the first brick stores on the square. Religiously, he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Nelson Countryman was educated in the schools of Syracuse and Buffalo, New York, and later accompanied his parents on their removal to Ottawa, Illinois. As previously stated the family came to this county in 1859, and our subject bought and opened up the first stone quarry near Pontiac, it being three-quarters of a mile northeast of the court house, and for this land he gave two hundred dollars per acre. From his quarry nearly the stone for the foundations of buildings in the city were obtained. He did a large and prosperous business, furnishing employment to many men, and had the name of being one of the best workmen in his line in this seceion of the state. He contracted to put in foundations and also shipped rock and sand.

On the 3d of October, 1854, Mr. Countryman married Miss Paskalenia Reynolds, and to them were born two children, namely: Mary E., wife of D. B. Shiland, of Pontiac, and Minnie, wife of Frank Sinclair, also of Pontiac. Benjamin B. Reynolds, Mrs. Countryman's father, was born in Lewiston,

Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, June 10, 1810, and there married Eleanor Scofield, who was born in Clearfield, Clearfield county, Pennsylvania, August 14, 1812. He was engaged in the hardware business in Lewiston until 1833, when, with his wife and two children, he removed to Ottawa, Illinois, being one of its first settlers. He had lost a fortune of nearly fifty thousand dollars by the failure of the state to pay for an acqueduct. In La Salle county, he purchased six hundred and forty acres of land six miles from Ottawa, where he made his home until 1877, and then went to Indiana, but his last days were passed in Texas. His brother, Dr. John P. Reynolds, was killed at the Alamo, and his property, consisting of four thousand and forty-seven acres of land and two thousand dollars fell to Mrs. Countryman's father and his sister in Indiana. The father went south to take possession of the land and located every acre. The property also included thirteen houses and lots in Wells Point, Texas. He died in that state February 2, 1882, leaving eight children, his wife passed away February 16, 1874. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and were people of prominence in the community where they resided.

Mrs. Countryman was reared on a farm near Ottawa and was mostly educated by her father, who had been a professor of schools for thirty years. He also served as supervisor of his township for over forty years, and was considered the leading man of the community, his fellow citizens always giving him their political support regardless of party lines. He also took an active interest in state affairs, and was well acquainted with Lincoln and other prominent politicians of his day.

Mr. and Mrs. Countryman resided for a short time in Wisconsin, and then returned to Pontiac, where she has since made her home at No. 313 East Livingston street. Here he died February 23, 1886. Through his own well-directed efforts he acquired a comfortable competence, and also won by an honorable, upright life, an untarnished name, and the record which he left behind is one well worthy of emulation. Since her husband's death Mrs. Countryman has carried on the business and quarry interests and has met with marked success, having more orders than she can fill, although she knew nothing of the business when it came under her management. She gives employment to ten men, and ships stone quite extensively, having the only quarry in this neighborhood. It is a very valuable piece of property, covering two acres of the eighteen and a half tract which she owns. She is a member of the Baptist church, and is honored, not alone for her business ability, but for her straightforward, womanly course and true nobility of character. Her circle of friends and acquaintances is extensive.

WALTER HART.

Walter Hart, a successful florist now engaged in business at No. 507 North Ladd street, Pontiac, Illinois, was born near Norage, England, February 27, 1833, and when eighteen years of age emigrated to America with his parents, George and Mary Ann (Locke) Hart, also natives of England, where the father earned a livelihood as a fisherman. The family settled near Aurora, in Kane county, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming until a few years before his death, when he came

[illegible] 15, 1884, in the age of seventy-three years. After his death the mother lived with our [illegible] 2, 1884, in the age of nearly eighty-four. They had a family of nine children, all born in England, but only three are now living, namely: Dennis, a farmer of Sac county, Iowa; George, a machinist of Des Moines, Iowa, and Walter, our subject. The others all died in England, with the exception of [illegible]

Walter Hart never left the home of his parents until his father's death. He obtained the greater part of his literary education in the evening schools of Nottage, England, and for a brief time after coming to this country attended school in Bristol, Kendall county, Illinois, where his father was engaged in farming. In November, 1875, he came to Pontiac with his parents and entered the employ of the Illinois State Reformatory as gardener, remaining in their employ for two years, after which he leased a greenhouse on Maplewood avenue, and engaged in business there as a florist for five years. The following eight years he carried on business in the northern part of the city, and then purchased his present place at No. 507 North Ladd street. Here he constructed a greenhouse, but his business has increased so rapidly that it is fast outgrowing his present quarters. A man of artistic tastes and good business ability, he has met with success in his chosen calling. He has been a life-long member of the Methodist church, and his career has ever been such as to commend him to the confidence and high regard of all with whom he has come in contact, either in business or social life. In his political views he is a Republican.

In 1880, in Kendall county, Illinois, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hart and Miss Sarah Springer, of that county, the sixth child of James and Katherine Springer. She was born in Indiana and came to this state with her parents when quite young. To Mr. and Mrs. Hart were born seven children, namely: Anna C., who died at the age of one year and eleven months; Sebina, who died in Pontiac at the age of five months; one who died in infancy unnamed; James W., who married Laura McKinsey, of McDowell, Illinois, and is an electrician in the employ of the Electric Light Company of Pontiac; Mary Ann, wife of Pearl Carrier, a farmer of Chenoa, Illinois; Adeline, wife of Charles Page, a painter and paper hanger of Pontiac, and George R., who is employed in a shoe factory in Pontiac.

JOHN HANCOCK.

John Hancock, whose home is on section 25, Pike township, Livingston county, is one of the most prominent and influential citizens of his community. He takes an active and commendable interest in public affairs, and gives his support to all enterprises which he believes will prove of public benefit or will in any way advance the interests of his adopted county.

Mr. Hancock was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, January 13, 1839, a son of John and Catherine (Mooney) Hancock, natives of Maryland and Pennsylvania, respectively. Throughout the greater portion of his life the father made his home in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, his time and attention being devoted to agricultural pursuits, and he died there in 1875. His wife,

who still survives him, a hale and hearty old lady of seventy-five years, continues to reside on the old homestead with her youngest son, Solomon Hancock.

During his boyhood our subject attended the common schools and remained in his native county until eighteen years of age, when he came to Illinois, locating in McLean county, March 1, 1857. There he worked by the month for two years, and then came to Livingston county, operating rented land in Pike township until the outbreak of the Civil war. On the 14th of June, 1861, he enlisted for three years, in Company A, First Illinois Cavalry, which was assigned to the western army, and his first engagement was at Lexington, Missouri. He participated in numerous skirmishes in that state and Arkansas, and was in active service two years, being mustered out and honorably discharged at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, in 1863. After his return from the war Mr. Hancock continued to engage in farming upon rented for several years, after which he speculated in farm property quite extensively, buying and selling several places. In 1878 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, on section 25, Pike township, and has since successfully engaged in its operation. He has erected thereon good and substantial buildings, and has made many other improvements, which add greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place, making it one of the best farms of its size in the township. By untiring industry and sound judgment he has won a merited success in his undertakings, and is in all respects worthy the high regard in which he is held by his fellow citizens.

On the 2d of June, 1863, in Livingston county, while home on a furlough, Mr. Hancock was united in marriage with Miss Rachel Campbell, who was born and reared in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of Archibald Campbell, a teacher by profession, and a life-long resident of the Keystone state. To Mr. and Mrs. Hancock were born five children, namely: Ida, wife of Harry Reed, of Pontiac; Lettie, Charles, Josephine and Bessie, all at home. Josephine was educated at the Pontiac high school and is now one of the successful teachers of the county, and Bessie is now a student at the Chenoa high school.

Formerly Mr. Hancock was identified with the Republican party and cast his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860, but is now a stanch Democrat, and takes quite an active and prominent part in local politics and public affairs, having served his fellow citizens as township collector, commissioner of highways and a member of the school board. He has filled the last position for some years and is now president of the board. As a citizen he ever stands ready to discharge any duty devolving upon him, and has taken an active interest in promoting the welfare of his township and county, his patriotism being manifest in days of peace as well as when he followed the old flag to victory on southern battle fields. He is an honored member of the Grand Army Post of Chenoa, and both he and his wife hold membership in the Presbyterian church of that place, with which he has been connected since 1858.

JOHN STEWART.

John Stewart is a well known representative of the business interests of Dwight, Illinois, where he is extensively engaged in contracting and building, and also deals in

lumber and coal. Of excellent business ability and broad resources, he has become one of the well-to-do citizens of the place. He has won success by his well-directed, energetic efforts, and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well deserved.

Mr. Stewart was born in the north of Ireland June 11, 1846, and is a son of John and Mary A. (McKelvey) Stewart, also natives of Ireland, but of Scotch parentage. There the father learned the weaver's trade, which he followed until his emigration to America in 1850, bringing with him his family, consisting of wife and eight children. He located in Warrensburg, Warren county, New York, and accepted a position as finisher in a tannery, but he was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, for he died five years after his arrival, at the age of sixty-three. He had ten children: Jane, William, Mary A., Robert, Thomas, Elizabeth, Ellen, Margaret, John and Rosa, all still living, but none residing in this county with the exception of our subject. He has one brother and three sisters in Aurora, Kane county; one sister in Kendall county, Illinois; a brother in Missouri, and the others are in New York state.

Our subject was only four years old when brought by his parents to this country, and he received his education in the common schools and seminary of Warrensburg, New York. After leaving school he worked in lumber mills for four years, and on the 15th of March, 1865, came to Aurora, Illinois, working one year on a farm in Sugar Grove township, Kane county. He then entered the car shops of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, where he followed the trade of a carbuilder four years, but on the advice of his physician he again turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. Going to Grundy county, Illinois, he rented a farm for a year and a half, and then came to Livingston county, purchasing a farm of eighty acres of improved land in Nevada township, to the cultivation of which he at once turned his attention. About six years later he bought another eighty-acre tract, making in all a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 12, Nevada township, which he thoroughly tiled and placed under a high state of cultivation. He gave the greater part of his time and attention to the raising of stock, feeding from two to three carloads of cattle per year and one of hogs. In this way he more than used all of the grain raised upon his own land. After fourteen years devoted to agricultural pursuits, Mr. Stewart moved to Dwight in the spring of 1890 and commenced working at the carpenter's trade. Since the fall of 1891 he has engaged in contracting and building on his own account and has erected many of the fine residences in the place. In 1900 he purchased the coal business of F. B. Chester, known as the Dwight Coal Company, and now carries it on in connection with his other business.

On the 14th of September, 1870, Mr. Stewart was united in marriage with Miss Mary E. Veale, a native of Grundy county, Illinois, and a daughter of Charles and Mary Veale, who were born in England and came to this country in early life, settling in Grundy county, where both died when Mrs. Stewart was a child of four years. She then made her home with her uncle, John Vickery. They were among the first settlers of Grundy county and while improving his land Mr. Veale lived in a wagon. To Mr. and Mrs. Stewart were born three children, namely: Ernest P., who died on his thirteenth birthday and the anniversary of his

parents' marriage; Nellie O., who was graduated from the Dwight high school in the spring of 1899 and is at home; and Robert Earl, aged ten years, is still in school.

Mr. Stewart is an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church, has always lived up to his professions and taken an active part in church work. He has been an official member for the past sixteen years and is now trustee of the church and superintendent of the Sunday school. Fraternally he is a member of Dwight Lodge, No. 513, I. O. O. F., of which he is deputy, and politically is a Prohibitionist and served as a delegate to the county conventions of his party and as chairman of the township Prohibition committee. When there is no Prohibition ticket in the field he supports the Republican party. For the last four years he has been an active and efficient member of the village board of trustees and has been chairman of the water works committee for the past three years, during which time the system has been improved and a standpipe placed. He has the entire confidence and respect of his fellow citizens and is held in high regard by all with whom he comes in contact, either in business or social life.

SAMUEL GOODWILL MORRISON.

Samuel Goodwill Morrison, a prominent farmer of Avoca township and a worthy representative of one of its old and honored families, was born in the house he now occupies October 20, 1857, a son of Samuel and Mary A. (Rockwood) Morrison, both of whom were born near Buffalo, New York, and with their respective parents came to Illinois when children, being married in this state. Our subject's paternal grandfather only lived a few years after settling in Livingston county, and his wife did not long survive him. They were pioneers of the county and made their home near where our subject now resides. The Rockwood family were also among the early settlers, who, by persistent labors, subdued the wild prairie lands and made homes for their descendants. The grandparents both died in Livingston county. The father was one of the most successful farmers of Avoca township, where at one time he owned five hundred acres of land, but later sold all but two hundred and forty-four acres, which he retained as a home place. This was school land when he purchased it and abounded with prairie grass and rattle snakes, but he improved and converted the same into one of the most fruitful and valuable farms of his locality. In politics he was a Republican and held minor offices in the township, which were thrust upon him, as he never sought political honors. His first wife died in 1866. Six children were born to them, four sons and two daughters, namely: Betsy, who died in infancy; Susan A., wife of C. D. Hering, of Indiana; John O., an employee of H. O. Babcock, of Pontiac; George D., a successful farmer of Avoca township; James J., a resident of Spear, Nebraska; and Samuel G., our subject. For his second wife the father married Maria Phillips, of Livingston county, by whom he had seven children: Nellie, wife of Joel W. Banker, of Pontiac; Joseph C., of Page county, Iowa; Lenora, wife of Charles Friant, of Avoca township; William R., of Owego township; Harry L., of Lodemia; Mary, who lives with our subject; and Charles, a farmer of Avoca township. After a successful and honorable career the father died at home May 1, 1884, at the age of sixty-five years.

During his boyhood Samuel G. Morrison pursued his studies in the district school near his home and when his education was completed he worked with his father on the farm until the latter's death, when he was appointed administrator of the estate. He purchased the interests of the other heirs in the home farm and now has one hundred and eighty acres, on which he is successfully engaged in general farming and raising stock for market.

On the 18th of February, 1892, Mr. Morrison was united in marriage with Miss Rose Gregg, who was born in Osceola county, Iowa, in 1868, and he brought his bride to the farm which has since been their home. Two children bless their union: Ivan G. and Samuel W., both bright boys. Mrs. Morrison is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and her husband is a supporter of the same. He holds membership in the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 6, of Fairbury, and n politics always affiliates with the Republican party, though he would never accept public office other than school direstor, a position he acceptably filled for twelve years. He has led a quiet, uneventful life in the same neighborhood where there are many who were his boyhood friends, and those who know him best hold him in the highest regard. His genial, pleasant manner makes him quite popular, and he is recognized as a valued citizen of the community.

DAVID E. CAPES.

David E. Capes, a successful ice dealer of Pontiac, is a native of Illinois, his birth occurring June 16, 1862, six miles south of Washington, in Tazewell county. His parents, Willoughby and Elizabeth (Milner) Capes, were born, reared and married in Lincolnshire, England, where they continued to make their home until after the birth of three of their children. Then the family, in 1852, came to the new world and settled in Washington, Illinois, where for two years the father supported his wife and children by working as a day laborer at fifty cents per day. The second year he was able to purchase a horse, and the following year bought another, after which he engaged in farming on his own account, operating rented land for eleven years. At the end of that period he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of raw prairie land on section 9, Pike township, Livingston county, for which he paid seven dollars and a quarter per acre. He located thereon in the spring of 1864, and at once turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his place, soon converting it into a most desirable farm. In connection with general farming he was also engaged in stock raising, and each fall shipped a carlod of hogs to market. He built a fine house upon his place and made many other improvements, costing as much as two sections of land would have cost when he purchased his property. As an agriculturist he met with marked success and was able to assist his sons in getting a start in life. He was one of the early members of the Bethel Methodist Episcopal church at Greymont, which he helped to establish, and was one of the main standbys in the erection of the house of worship. From the first he served as steward of the church, and was recognized as one of the most honest, honored and highly respected men of his community. He was never an aspirant for office, but was always a consistent and earnest Republican, and never failed in his duties of citizenship.

WILLOUGHBY CAPES.

D. E. CAPES.

He was born at Mar's Chapel, near Grimsey, Lincolnshire, England, October 18, 1819, and died October 4, 1899. He was united in marriage with Elizabeth Milner, in 1844, and they became the parents of thirteen children. She was born in Yorkshire, England, March 13, 1827. In her seventeenth year she was converted and joined the Methodist Episcopal church, and her life was freely given to the labors of the church, and her influence upon Bethel community will be felt in the years to come. After a long illness she fell asleep September 4, 1898.

Our subject was the eighth in order of birth in the family born to this worthy couple. During his boyhood he attended the public schools of Pike township, and aided his father in the work of the home farm until he attained his majority. On the 28th of December, 1882, he was united in marriage with Miss Alice A. Piper, of Rock Creek, Illinois, and they now have two children: Delbert R., born January 8, 1884, and Cora Belle, born February 1, 1886. Both are now attending the high school of Pontiac.

After his marriage Mr. Capes remained at home until the fall of 1883, when he purchased eighty acres of raw prairie land only three miles from Pontiac—a rare thing for that late date. He had no money and it was only with the help of his father as security for the first payment that he was able to purchase it. That fall he built a house and commenced breaking the land. He tiled it the next spring and continued the work of improvement and cultivation until he had one of the best farms of its size in the locality, raising as much on it, by working it thoroughly, as many did who owned twice the number of acres. At the age of sixteen he commenced running a threshing machine, which he operated thirteen years, and this helped him out considerably in paying for his land, which was soon free from debt. He was one of the youngest threshers in the county and made a success of the business. He continued to carry on his farm until 1893, when he sold it for ninety-five dollars per acre, having paid forty dollars for it.

Mr. Capes then moved to Pontiac, where he was engaged in different lines of trade for a time, including the implement and milk business. In July, 1895, he turned his attention to the ice business. At that time there were two firms of the kind in the city; one of these he got his brother to buy, while he purchased the other and then, buying his brother's business, he had entire control of the ice trade. His ice houses were located on the Vermilion river near the Wabash Railroad, where he owns two acres of land, on which are six houses, with a storage capacity of eight thousand tons. He puts up a full supply and gives employment to many men in cutting the ice. During the summer he runs four teams and employs nine men in its distribution to his customers, and for the past three years has controlled the ice trade of the city and done a good business. He has a fine property on the south side of the river, opposite the Chautauqua grounds and extending to the river. Here he has a nice home where he can enjoy the results of his labor. He belongs to that class of men whom the world terms self-made, for, commencing life empty handed, he has conquered the obstacles in the path to success, and has not only secured a comfortable competence, but by his efforts has materially advanced the interests of the community with which he is associated. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party and fraternally affiliated with the Knights of

Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America, Royal Neighbors and Toilers Fraternity. He attends and aids in the support of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife is a member.

SAMUEL J. PRISK.

Samuel J. Prisk, a well-known nursery man and highly respected citizen of Pontiac, who has made his home in this county for the past eighteen years, was born in Cornwall, England, December 20, 1836, a son of Samuel and Grace (Williams) Prisk, natives of the same place, where the father engaged in mining until his emigration to America in 1840. The grandfather, Joseph Prisk, had previously crossed the Atlantic and located on a branch of the East Fork river, four miles southeast of Galena, erecting one of the pioneer homes of that locality. With his two sons, William and Paul, he built the first Methodist Episcopal church east of Galena, a log structure, also laid out a cemetery and a mound there, which is still known as Joseph Prisk mound. He owned and operated a farm of forty acres and also engaged in mining. He was a very active member of the Methodist Episcopal church and his home became the stopping place for all the ministers. The father of our subject bought a farm of eighty acres between Scales Mound and Council Hill, Jo Daviess county, and built the first stone house in that part of the country, it being also the first good house. During the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad through that locality he boarded the hands, and throughout his active business life engaged in farming and mining. He finally sold his farm and bought a two-hundred-and-twenty-acre farm on Rush creek in Woodbine township, living on it until his death, which occurred in July, 1861. His wife died June 14, 1892, at the ripe old age of seventy-seven years. Both were earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

At a very early age our subject began work, and all the education he acquired was obtained at Sunday school, which he attended about three hours every Sunday, but by reading and observation in later years he has become a man of broad practical knowledge. He worked with his father in the lead mines from the age of eight years until he attained his majority, when he started out in life for himself. Going to La Salle, he found employment in the coal mines, where he worked fifteen years.

There Mr. Prisk was married, December 31, 1859, to Miss Mary Ann Case, who was born in Preble county, Ohio, in 1843. Her father, Conrad Case, was a native of Pennsylvania and went to Preble county, Ohio, when a young man, locating eighteen miles from Dayton, where he married Sarah Ann Combs. He engaged in farming there until 1854, when he came to Illinois and settled at Jericho, near Aurora, where he followed the same occupation two or three years. His next home was four miles from De Witt, Iowa, where he located when the country was all wild and unimproved, but he bought land, built a house and engaged in the cultivation of his farm for three years, at the end of which time he sold out and returned to Illinois, this time locating in La Salle, but his last days were spent in Ohio, where he died in 1863. His wife had died in Jericho, Illinois. Both were members of the Lutheran church. He was a cooper by trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Prisk have eight children living, while Mary Jane, wife of Albert Bernell, of Streator, died at the age of twenty-four years. Allen, a resident of Pontiac, married Maggie Lampkin and has four children, Robert, Marguerite, Allen and Levi. William J. is now living in Springfield. Samuel, a resident of Pontiac, married Ida Block, and has four children, May, Lloyd Lincoln, Lillian and Dewey. Lillie is at home. Mrs. Estella McGill has one child, Pearl, and lives with her parents. Wesley married Emma Laycock, now deceased, and is serving as corporal of Company H, Thirty-ninth United States Volunteer Infantry, in the Philippines. Clara and May are both at home.

After President Lincoln's first call for seventy-five thousand men at the opening of the Civil war, Mr. Prisk was the eighteenth to enroll his name among the volunteers at La Salle, and was a member of the first company to leave that place, it being Company K, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. They went to Springfield, Illinois, April 20, 1861, and from there proceeded to Villa Ridge, near Cairo, where they were detailed to guard a bridge. They were next ordered to Bridge Point, Missouri, and when their term of enlistment expired were honorably discharged.

Returning to La Salle, Mr. Prisk engaged in mining and farming there for some time and then devoted four years to the latter pursuit at Rush creek, Jo Daviess county, after which he returned to La Salle, where he again followed farming. Subsequently he engaged in mining at Streator until coming to Livingston county in 1882, when he located northwest of Pontiac and engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1889, in the meantime serving as roadmaster two years. He then came to Pontiac and has since devoted his attention to the nursery business, becoming one of the best known and most successful nursery men of this section. In 1895 he built a fine home at No. 117 Park street, facing River View Park. He was the first to build on that street and the people laughed at him for going so far out, but it is now well built up and is one of the most pleasant parts of the city, being advantageously located near the park and river. Mr. Prisk has charge of the park, in which the Chautauqua Association is held. He is a member of T. Lyle Dickey Post, No. 105, G. A. R., of which he is now officer of the guard, and both he and his wife are active and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as steward, class leader and superintendent of the Sunday school.

JOHN C. TAYLOR.

John C. Taylor, who resides on section 36, Pontiac township, Livingston county, is the owner of a fine farm of two hundred and thirty-six acres, within three and a half miles of the city of Pontiac. He is a native of Saratoga county, New York, born near the great Saratoga springs October 5, 1843, and is a son of George C. Taylor, a native of the West Indies, born on the island of St. Bartholomew January 30, 1817. The grandfather, George W. Taylor, was a professional sailor and followed the sea for many years, but later settled in Saratoga county, New York, where his last days were spent. George C. Taylor was reared in Saratoga county and there married Miss Uretta Bentley, a native of Saratoga county and

a daughter of Otis Bentley, one of the pioneers of Saratoga county, who lived to the remarkable old age of ninety-nine years and six months, and whose faculties were preserved to the last. He continued to vote at every election until within one month of his death, voting at an election in March and dying the next April. He never wore glasses and could see to read until near the last.

In Saratoga county George C. Taylor engaged in agricultural pursuits until his removal to Livingston county in 1858. Here he purchased an undivided half of a half-section of land which had been entered by his brother, John J. Taylor, and which had been partially improved. In partnership with his brother he commenced the further improvement of the place and in due time had one of the best farms in the township. He later purchased the interest of his brother in the half-section and continued to live on that homestead until his death, December 9, 1893, at the age of seventy-six years. He was twice married, his first wife dying March 8, 1877. The second wife is yet living. By the first wife three sons were born. Otis B. was a soldier in the Civil war and died in 1862, at Buck's Lodge, Tennessee, while in the service. John C., of this review, was the second in order of birth. George W. died at the age of twenty-one years. He died in Saratoga county and at his death was just the same age as his brother when he died.

John C. Taylor came to Livingston county in his fifteenth year. His education, which was begun in the common schools of his native state, was completed in the common schools of Livingston county. While he gave the greater portion of his time in assisting his father with the farm work, he spent a short time in teaching in the district schools; in which line he met with a reasonable degree of success. He was first married, April 22, 1866, to Miss Cecelia Zeph, a native of Wurtemberg, Germany, but who came to this country in early life and was reared to womanhood in Livingston county. By this union were three children, as follows: Hattie, now the wife of Grant McCormack, of Livingston county; Zephyr, wife of Lincoln Tuttle, of Graymont, Illinois; and William, who married Daisy Pearre, and now resides in Arkansas, where he is engaged in farming.

After his marriage Mr. Taylor continued to operate the home farm, on which he made many improvements, including the erection of a large barn. For some years he engaged quite extensively in the stock business, in which he met with good success. His wife died in 1872 and October 1, 1873, he married Miss Eliza McManis, a native of Ohio and daughter of Joseph McManis, who was born in Pennsylvania, but who removed to Ohio and later to Illinois. He was married three times and was the father of nineteen children, sixteen of whom grew to mature years. Mrs. Taylor was mostly reared in Livingston county.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have five children: George, who is assisting in the cultivation of the home farm; John, a teacher in St. Alban Academy, Knoxville, Illinois; Arthur G., a student at Zion College, Chicago; Alice, a student in the Pontiac high school; and Harry, in the home school.

Politically Mr. Taylor was originally a Republican and supported the men and measures of that party for many years. Of late he has given his support to the Prohibition party. He never sought or desired public office and declined several that were offered him; however, he served for a time as a

member of the school board and as president of his school district. Reared a Baptist, he has since undergone a change of faith and is now a member of the Christian Catholic church in Zion, of which body his wife is also a member. As a citizen he has always enjoyed the respect and confidence of those by whom he is surrounded and by those who know him best.

WILLIAM H. BRACE.

William H. Brace, who is now successfully engaged in the milk business in Pontiac, Illinois, was born in Baldwinsville, New York, February 21, 1845, a son of Moses and Frances (Sibbelds) Brace, also natives of the Empire state. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin Brace, was born in England and on his emigration to this country settled in Baldwinsville. When our subject was eight years old his father removed to Chicago and shortly afterward located in Will county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his life.

William H. Brace was reared on the home farm in Manhattan township, Will county, and was educated in the local schools. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundredth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, being one of the youngest to serve for three years as a regular soldier. His regiment, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, went first to Louisville and spent some time in Kentucky following Bragg's army. Mr. Brace's first battle was that of Perryville, followed by the engagements at Stone River, Nashville and Chickamauga. He participated in the siege of Atlanta and went with Sherman on the march to the sea. He was mustered out at Chicago in August, 1865. At Chickamauga he received two flesh wounds, but was never seriously injured.

While home on a furlough, in 1864, Mr. Brace married Miss Adeline Mossow, of Manhattan, Illinois, who came here from New York. After the war our subject engaged in farming in Will county on his own account for two years, and then went to Chicago, where he had charge of the teaming business of A. H. Andrews & Company for eight years. On leaving there he came to Chatsworth, Livingston county, where he followed farrming one year, and engaged in the same pursuit in Eppards Point township, successfully operating a farm of one hundred and sixty accres for eight years. On selling out, he moved to Pontiac and bought thirteen lots on West Washington street, where he has a nice home surrounded by a beautiful lawn. He also has a house and lot elsewhere. For four years, under Dr. Scouller, he held the position of night officer at the reform school, having charge of a dormitory, but on account of ill health he was obliged to resign, and after a six-months' rest he became night police in Pontiac, serving as such for ten years with credit to himself and satisfaction of all concerned, being one of the best-known and most highly-respected officials the city has ever had. He resigned that position in 1898 and embarked in the dairy business, keeping cows and selling his own milk, but on account of his wife's health he sold his dairy, though he still retains his milk route, which is the largest in the city. He is a good business man, being energetic and progressive, and has met with success in this undertaking.

Mr. Brace lost his first wife May 30, 1894, and on the 7th of October, 1896, he

married Miss Lizzie Krell, of Pontiac, a daughter of John Krell, of Havana, Illinois. In his political views he is a stanch Republican, and while living in the county served as deputy under three different sheriffs. Fraternally he is a member of T. Lyle Dickey Post, G. A. R. A pleasant, genial gentleman, he makes friends and is held in high regard by all who know him.

PETER BAUMAN.

Peter Bauman, one of the representative German-American citizens of Livingston county and a prosperous farmer, residing on section 26, Pike township, two miles from Chenoa, was born in Luxemburg, Germany, April 30, 1834, and there grew to manhood. He had good educational advantages, attending school eight years, becoming familiar with the German language, but his knowledge of English has been acquired through his own unaided efforts since coming to the new world. In 1854 he was one of the passengers on a sailing vessel, which left the harbor of Havre, France, and arrived in New York after twenty-eight days spent upon the water, which was considered a quick trip at that time. He proceeded at once to Chicago, joining his brother, Michael Bauman, who had located in Illinois in 1849.

Our subject found emploment on a farm in Woodford county, working by the month several years there and in Marshall county. His first purchase of land was a partially improved farm of one hundred acres in the latter county, on which was standing a small house, and there he made his home for several years. In 1888 he bought the farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 26, Pike township, Livingston county, where he now resides, and to its further improvement and development he has since devoted his time and attention, success attending his well-directed efforts.

While a resident of Woodford county, Mr. Bauman was married, in January, 1861, to Miss Helen Balbach, who was born and reared in Bavaria, Germany, and is a daughter of August and Anna Elizabeth (Keeler) Balbach. The mother died in that country, and in 1854, the father, with his three daughters and one son, came to America, joining his older son, Jacob Balback, who had been a resident of Woodford county, Illinois, since 1852, and who is now a merchant of Chenoa. The other son, Paul Balbach, is a farmer of Pike township, Livingston county. The father died in Woodford county, in 1856. Mr and Mrs. Bauman have a family of eight children, namely: Mary, wife of Chris Pfeffinger, of Waldo township, Livingston county; Lizzie, at home; Effie, widow of Alaxander Black, and a resident of Woodford county; Peter, who is married and lives in Pekin, Illinois; Lena, Anna and Clara, all at home. The last named was educated at Chenoa and the normal college at Valparaiso, Indiana, and is now one of the successful teachers of Livingston county.

Politically Mr. Bauman is a stanch Democrat, and cast his first presidential ballot for Stephen A. Douglas, in 1860. He has never cared for public office, but has preferred to devote his undivided time and attention to his business interests. His life has been one of industry and due success has not been denied him. His honorable, upright course commends him to the confidence and respect of all, and he is well worthy of representation in the history of his adopted county.

WILLIAM I. St. JOHN.

William I. St. John, an honored veteran of the Civil war, who is now living a retired life in Pontiac, was born in Warren county, Indiana, July 20, 1844, a son of Samuel and Margaret (Coldren) St. John, both of whom were born in Ohio, the latter near Zanesville, but were married in Indiana, where the father located when a young man, and where he engaged in farming until coming to Livingston county, Illinois, about 1853. He settled near Ocoya, in Eppards Point township, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land. That locality was then all wild, there being but four houses scattered through the timber, and his nearest neighbor was some distance away. He devoted his time and attention to the improvement and cultivation of that farm until 1866, when he rented it and moved to Chenoa, where he worked at wagonmaking until called to his final rest. He was one of the early members of the Methodist Episcopal church in this county, and was a Republican in politics.

Before leaving Indiana, William I. St. John attended school a term or two, but there was no school house in his district when the family came to Illinois, and he was well grown before a school which he could attend was built. His educational advantages were therefore limited, but he has become a well informed man by reading and observation in later years. He remained on the home farm until after the Civil war broke out, when he enlisted, August 6, 1862, in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. The regiment spent much time in Louisville, but participated in the engagements at Frankfort, Crab Orchard and Bowling Green, and did garrison duty at Mitchellville, Tunnel Hill and Gallatin, Tennessee. From there they went to Nashville and participated in the battles of Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge, being on the march most of the time during that campaign. They were also with Sherman on his celebrated march to the sea, and at Peach Tree Creek, in front of Atlanta, Mr. St. John was wounded. He was sent to the hospital at Chattanooga, was later transferred to Nashville, and from there was sent home. At the end of three months he was able to rejoin his regiment in time to take part in the Carolina campaign. He was in the battle of Goldsboro, and was at Raleigh when Johnston surrendered. He then marched to Washington, D. C., and participated in the grand review, after which he was mustered out at that place and discharged at Chicago, after almost three years of faithful service on southern battle fields.

Returning to his home, Mr. St. John engaged in farm work one year, and then went to Chenoa, where he worked at the carpenter's trade four years. On the 6th of September, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Stone, a daughter of William Stone, a farmer of Ohio. By this union were born two children: William Seth, who now operates his father's farm, married Minnie Talbot and has four children: Mabel, Roy, Bert and an infant. Burton G. is a resident of Pontiac.

On leaving Chenoa Mr. St. John purchased a farm of forty acres in Eppards Point township, which he sold three years later and boughtfi fifty acres of land in Amity township, but this he disposed of a year later and bought an eighty-acre tract in the same township, where he successfully engaged in farming for twelve years. At the end of tha ttime he traded it for a farm of two hun-

dred and thirty-five acres in Amity township, which he has greatly improved and still owns. In 1880 he moved to Pontiac and bought property at No. 211 South Vermillion street, where he has a large and nicely kept place. Here he worked at the carpenter's trade for a time, but is now living retired, enjoying a well-earned rest, free from the cares and responsibilities of business life. Religiously both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and he also belongs to T. Lyle Dickey Post, G. A. R., of which he is junior vice commander. He has always been a stanch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, and he has ever been a loyal citizen, co-operating in all that is calculated to promote the interests of his state or nation, his patriotism being manifest in times of peace as well as in war.

BENNET HUMISTON.

Bennet Humiston, deceased, was one of the leading business men of Pontiac, Illinois, who in his successful career showed that he had the ability to plan wisely and execute with energy, a combination which, when possessed by men in any walk of life, never fails to effect notable results.

Mr. Humiston was born in Plymouth Hollow, Connecticut, September 6, 1830, a son of Bennet and Emily (Warner) Humiston, representatives of old and honored families of that state. On attaining to man's estate the father started out in life for himself as a peddler, traveling through the south for many years, but after his marriage he settled on a farm in Plymouth and devoted the remainder of his life to agricultural pursuits.

Our subject grew to manhood on the home farm and was provided with better educational privileges than most farmer boys, attending school at Warren, Litchfield county, Connecticut, for two years. He then followed farming in his native state until the fall of 1852, when he came west with Apollos Camp, and together they took up a section of land in Esmen township, Livingston county, Illinois. May 22, 1856, he married his partner's daughter, Miss Harriet Camp, and they made their home on his half-section of land until 1876. In the meantime he erected good and substantial buildings thereon and placed the land under a high state of cultivation. He introduced some of the first fine horses into the county and at the time of his death, which occurred November 15, 1883, he had one hundred head. He and Mr. Camp were always in business together and owned in the neighborhood of two thousand acres of valuable land. They expended large amounts in tiling and converting their land into highly productive tracts. They were among the original stockholders of the Pontiac National Bank, of Pontiac, of which Mr. Camp was also a director. In his political views Mr. Humiston was a Democrat. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity and a man of high standing in the community. Of keen perception, of unbounded enterprise, his success in life was due to his own well-directed efforts, and he deserves prominent mention among the leading and representative business men of the county.

Since her husband's death Mrs. Humiston has successfully carried on the vast estate, and has displayed most excellent business and executive ability in its management. She was one of the heavy original stockholders of the Pontiac State Bank, and from

BENNET HUMISTON.

its organization has been a director. She owns a good deal of property in Pontiac, also in Odell, Illinois; and Eldorado, Missouri, where she has a business block. She has been a liberal donator to the public library of Pontiac and other charitable institutions, and never withholds her liberal support from any enterprise which she believes will prove of benefit to the community. In 1876 Mr. Humiston built a beautiful residence on North Main street, Pontiac, which is still owned and occupied by his widow. It occupies a whole block on the hill and is one of the most attractive places in the city. Over this home Mrs. Humiston presides with gracious dignity and its hospitable doors are ever open for the reception of her many friends.

JOHN T. ARMSTRONG.

The subject of this personal narrative is one of the most successful and prosperous farmers of Eppards Point township, his home being on section 16, five miles south of Pontiac. He has made his special field of industry an eminent success, and is highly respected and esteemed by those who know him.

Mr. Armstrong was born in Madison, Ohio, April 28, 1839, and there grew to manhood, receiving a common-school education. In April, 1864, during the dark days of the Civil war, he enlisted in the one-hundred-day service, as a private in Company C, One Hundred and Forty-fourth Ohio National Guards. The regiment went to Virginia and took part in the battle of New Creek and several skirmishes, but only one man died in the service, his death occurring in a hospital. On the expiration of his term of enlistment, Mr. Armstrong was honorably discharged at Camp Dennison, in August, 1864, and returned to his Ohio home.

In the spring of 1865 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and located upon his present farm in Eppards Point township, purchasing four hundred acres, about half of which had been broken and a small house erected thereon. He has since purchased more land, and to the further improvement and cultivation of his place he has devoted his energies with most gratifying results, so that he now has one of the best farms in the township. In connection with general farming he is engaged in feeding and dealing in stock, and in this branch of his business he has also prospered.

Returning to his old home in Madison county, Ohio, in March, 1869, Mr. Armstrong married Lydia Cousins, who was born in Pickaway, that state, but was reared in the same neighborhood as her husband and educated in the same school. They became the parents of six children, but only three are now living: Archie E., a pharmacist of Dwight; Lida W. and Grant C., both at home. Bernard C. and John both died in childhood, and Sarah L., wife of O. I. Ellis, died in Ancona, Illinois, at the age of twenty-two years, leaving two children, O. I. and Sadie Ellis.

Mr. Armstrong cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1860, and has since been an ardent Republican. Although he has never sought political preferment, he was elected and served three years as highway commissioner and was a member of the school board for a number of years, during which time he did all in his power to secure competent teachers and advance the educational interests of his community. Religiously, both he and his wife are active mem-

bers of the Centre Methodist Episcopal church and they give their support to every worthy enterprise which they believe calculated to advance the moral, social or material welfare of the township and county in which they live.

JARVIS C. SUMNER.

Jarvis C. Sumner, one of the best known citizens of Pontiac, was born in Elkhart, Indiana, November 7, 1843, a son of John M. and Ann (Strong) Sumner. The father was born in New York, March 3, 1812, and was a son of Harvey and Sally (Sherwin) Sumner, who were born, reared and married in Vermont. The latter was a daughter of Ahamaz Sherwin, a drum major from Vermont in the Revolutionary war. At an early day Harvey Sumner and wife moved to Westport township, Essex county, New York, and in 1818 went to Ohio, sailing out of Buffalo on the first steamer that ever navigated the great lakes. They located four miles east of Cleveland, where Mr. Sumner followed farming for some time, but spent his last days in Elkhart, Indiana. His wife died in Cleveland about 1825.

John M. Sumner, father of our subject, accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, and later went with his father to Elkhart, Indiana, in the fall of 1834, when that place contained but few inhabitants. On his arrival there he had but six and one-fourth cents, but he soon found employment and the next summer was able to purchase forty acres of land. There he married Ann Strong, a daughter of Walter Strong, who went to Indiana from Ohio, but was born in Connecticut. He gave his daughter forty acres of land, and upon that place Mr. and Mrs. Sumner lived until 1850, when they moved to Wisconsin, but a year later returned to Indiana. He followed farming throughout the greater part of his active business life, but is now living retired with our subject. The wife and mother, who was a member of the Universalist church, died November 24, 1886.

Our subject acquired his education in the common and high schools of Elkhart, and assisted his father in the operation of the home farm until twenty-one years of age. He manifested his patriotism by enlisting in the Civil war, but was discharged on account of illness and sent home before leaving the state. He was a member of the Chandler Horse Guards of Coldwater.

In 1864 Mr. Sumner moved to Eureka, Illinois, where he engaged in farming on his own account. Prior to his removal, he was married, in Cass county, Michigan, to Miss Sarah Martin, who was born in Elkhart county, Indiana, February 6, 1846, a daughter of William and Mary A. (Clinger) Martin, natives of Ohio, whose home was five miles east of Middlebury, in La Grange county, Indiana. The mother died when Mrs. Sumner was only two years old, and the father departed this life at Benton Harbor, Michigan, September 27, 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Sumner have three children, namely: Charles M., May Belle and William Roy. The last named was a member of the state militia, but was not accepted into the United States service during our recent war with Spain.

While at Eureka, Mr. Sumner served as constable and deputy sheriff under Frank Roman and Garman Gish for eight years. He attended to all the sheriff's business in his part of the county and served all the papers in the Workman murder case. He also

carried on the largest and most important livery business in the town. He finally sold out and moved to Livingston county, in the spring of 1881. For two years he was engaged in farming in Pontiac township, and then moved to the city of Pontiac that he might provide his children with better educational advantages, but was mostly engaged in farming and teaming until appointed deputy by Sheriff Reed. He was reappointed by Sheriff Talbot and most creditably and satisfactorily filled that position for seven years. He did a good deal of work in connection with the bank robbery case of Cornell and the Rightsel murder case of Fairbury, besides a large amount of civil business and collecting. In November, 1896, he was elected constable, and is still filling that office in a most capable manner. He also has considerable property in his hands to rent, and does a good life insurance business. He owns a lovely home situated on a large lot at the corner of Plum and Cleary streets, surrounded by beautiful trees and shrubs and is one of the best kept places of the city. Since attaining his majority Mr. Sumner has affiliated with the Republican party, and both he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian church.

WILLIAM H. KETCHAM.

One of the busiest, most energetic and most enterprising men of Dwight, Illinois, is the subject of this sketch, who is successfully engaged in the real estate and loan business, as well as the practice of law. He was born in that place, February 9, 1861, and there the greater part of his life has been spent—an important factor in business and public affairs.

William H. Ketcham, Sr., father of our subject, was born in Fishkill, Dutchess county, New York, November 28, 1821. He received a good English education and remained at home until 1852, when he set sail for California, leaving New York, February 4, and arriving in San Francisco April 1. He was shipwrecked off the coast of Mexico and delayed five weeks. He was successfully engaged in mining about three years and a half near Marysville, and then returned to his native state by way of the Isthmus of Panama. In Dutchess county, he was married, November 30, 1840, to Miss Mary E. Losee, who was born there May 23, 1822, and was a daughter of John Losee, whose ancestry can be traced back to Wilbur Weber, King of Holland and a son of the Prince of Orange. His daughter, Anna Kanjanse Weber, married Everetus Bogardus, the first preacher who came to New York City. Mrs. Ketcham was the seventh generation from this king, who left an immense fortune, now amounting to about five million dollars, and, which is in litigation at present. In the fall of 1855, shortly after his return to New York from California, Mr. Ketcham migrated to Dwight, Illinois, which place then contained only eight families. Here he at first worked at anything he could find to do, and for a time engaged in farming and operated a corn sheller a number of years. He was a public-spirited man and did much to advance the interests of his adopted town, taking quite an active part in public affairs, and serving as justice of the peace fourteen years, school director a number of years, and also village trustee some time, and deputy sheriff of the county in early days. In 1874 he joined Dwight Lodge, No. 513,

I. O. O. F., and later became a member of Pacific Encampment, No. 126. He died, April 19, 1882.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest in a family of seven children, the others being as follows: Berwin L., the eldest, died in infancy. John L., a member of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry, was wounded in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, and died in the hospital at Chattanooga, June 25, 1864. Jane E. married J. J. Smith and both are now deceased. Frank is the wife of Hugh Thompson, of Pontiac. Mary H. is the wife of George Hoover, of Chicago. Emma V. is the widow of W. A. Chamberllain and resides with her children, Marietta and Frank William, who live in Chicago.

William H. Ketcham, Jr., was reared and educated in Dwight, and began his business career as bookkeeper in the grain elevator of Hugh Thompson, of that place, remaining with him one year. He then became interested in the stock business, which he carried on alone for one year, buying cattle in Livingston and Grundy counties. At the end of that time he formed a partnership with John Thompson in the same business, shipping stock to the Chicago market. This connection lasted two years, and Mr. Ketcham next purchased the real estate business of Alexander McKay, which he conducted from December, 1886, until April, 1887, when he sold out to Hetzel & Romberger.

After disposing of his real estate business, Mr. Ketcham moved to Marion county, Kansas, where he was interested in the same pursuit until the fall of 1887, when he entered the law office of Kellar & Dean, studying under their instruction and at the same time doing office work. Before his admission to the bar he drew up the papers for twenty-one forclosures in one week. He was admitted to practice by examination before Judge Doster, the present chief justice of the state of Kansas, August 20, 1888, and before the supreme court at Topeka, June 2, 1891. He was associated in practice with W. H. Carpenter, of Marion, Kansas, from 1889 to July, 1891, when he returned to Dwight and resumed business as a real estate dealer, in partnership with Frank I. Smith, under the firm name of Ketcham & Smith. On the 23d of March, 1892, he was admitted to practice in Illinois, and later in the state of Indiana. By mutual agreement the partnership between Mr. Ketcham and Mr. Smith was dissolved in October, 1895, since which time our subject has been alone in business. He gives the greater part of his attention to real estate, but is also engaged in the practice of law in the courts of this state and Indiana. He carried the Clauson case through the supreme court of Illinois.

On the 19th of April, 1893, Mr. Ketcham was united in marriage with Miss Nora A. Taylor, a native of Grundy county, Illinois, and one of a family of four daughters, all living. Her father, G. L. Taylor, was one of the first settlers of Grundy county, but is now a resident of Dwight township, Livingston county. Mr. and Mrs. Ketcham have three children, namely: Mary Emma, Gertrude Nora and Nellie Maurine.

Fraternally, Mr. Ketcham is a member of Dwight Lodge, No. 513, and Pacific Encampment, No. 313, I. O. O. F., and Livingston Lodge, No. 371, F. & A. M. Since reaching his majority he has always affiliated with the Democratic party and taken an active interest in politics. He is now an advocate of the free coinage of silver, and in 1896 took the stump, speaking in Chicago and other parts of the state. While engaged

in the practice of law in Kansas he assisted the county attorney and during his residence in Dwight has taken an active part in public affairs. He was elected mayor in 1896 and efficiently filled the office one term, during which time the park ordinance was passed and notable improvements made. He was once a candidate before the Democratic convention, for judge on the Democratic ticket, but was defeated. In 1886 he was elected village treasurer and was filling that office when he moved to Kansas, and in April, 1900, was elected village trustee, in which capacity he is now serving in a most creditable and satisfactory manner. A man of keen perception, of unbounded enterprise, his success in life is due to his own efforts, and he deserves prominent mention among the leading representative business men of the county. His genial, pleasing manner makes him quite popular in both business and social circles, and as a public-spirited, enterprising man he is recognized as a valued citizen of the community.

JOHN R. OUGHTON.

To the present mayor of Dwight, Hon. John R. Oughton, the city owes a deep debt of gratitude, for through many years he has been an important factor in its progress and advancement along social, educational, material and moral lines. His active co-operation has been given to every movement for the public good, and his support has been withheld from no movement calculated to advance the general welfare. His aid, too, has been of a practical nature and the substantial growth of the city is the outcome of his well-directed and discriminating effort.

It is not an easy task to describe adequately a man who has lead an eminently active and busy life and who has attained to a position of high relative distinction in the more important and exacting fields of human endeavor. But biography finds its most perfect justification, nevertheless, in the tracing and recording of such a life history. It is, then, with a full appreciation of all that is demanded, and of the painstaking scrutiny that must be accorded each statement, and yet with a feeling of significant satisfaction, that the writer essays the task of touchinbg briefly upon the details of such a record as has ben the voice of the character of the honored subject whose life now comes under review.

John R. Oughton was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1857, and resided in his native land until sixteen years of age, when he crossed the Atlantic to America, locating in Chicago, Illinois. He acquired his preliminary education in the schools of Ireland and there took up the study of chemistry. After reaching Chicago he resumed his studies along that line in the Chicago College of Pharmacy and later in the Rush Medical College. Previous to entering college, however, he engaged as a clerk in the drug store of his cousin, Mr. Lee, who was doing business on the west side of the city. After completing his collegiate course he came to Dwight and soon afterward formed an association with Dr. Keeley in the work which has since made them and the city of their residence famous throughout the land. For many years Mr. Oughton was vice-president and chemist of the Leslie E. Keeley Company, but after the death of Dr. Keeley he was elected president and has since served in that capacity. The history of the institution is too well known to need further

comment here. Its splendid work is shown by thousands of reformed men to whom manhood has been restored and who now occupy honored positions in society and in business life. The volume of their business has constantly increased and has assumed gigantic proportions. Their extensive institution is fitted up with one of the most complete laboratories of the country, and the work is progressing with undiminished strength, its beneficent purpose resulting in good immeasurable.

Mr. Oughton has two children, sons, James H. and John R. Socially he is a Mason and has taken the degrees of the blue lodge, chapter commandery, consistory and the Mystic shrine. He belongs to the Episcopal church, and in his political affiliations is a Republican, ardent and earnest in his advocacy of the principles of the party. He has served as a member of the school board, has held a number other city offices, and in the spring of 1896 was elected mayor of Dwight, to which position he has been re-elected each succeeding spring. In 1898 Mr. Oughton, Major Judd and Dr. Leslie E. Keeley erected and gave to the city of Dwight the present standpipe and waterworks, built at a cost of twenty thousand dollars and unequalled by any system in the state in a town approaching the size of Dwight. The cement sidewalks of the city have been constructed during the mayoralty of Mr. Oughton and the town now has better sidewalks in proportion to its size than any other in the state. Many other improvements have received his co-operation and Dwight owes much to his progressive spirit.

In 1895 Mr. Oughton erected his palatial residence at a cost of about one hundred thousand dollars—one of the finest homes in Illinois and the best in this section of the state. He is the owner of a very fine kennel, having some very fine dogs, including the famous prize winner, "Heather Lad," valued at six thousand dollars. This fine animal has taken prizes at all of the bench shows, and in 1893 and 1894 carried off first prize at every bench show in the United States. Mr. Oughton also has a deer park upon his place, containing some fifteen or twenty head of fine deer. His saddle horses are noted throughout this section of the state and for a number of years Mr. Oughton was extensively engaged in breeding fine Kentucky stock. He owns over four thousand acres of land in Livingston and Grundy counties, and with the exception of eight hundred acres, all is in Dwight township and is under a high state of cultivation. While intensely devoted to business and a man of very decided views and strong convictions, he is, by nature, of a very gentle and affectionate disposition. His moral standing is high and he lives up to it. His genial companionship, his tenacious regard for the simple truth, his unostentatious generosity and his large-hearted Christian benevolence are among the qualities which have greatly endeared him to his fellow men. His wealth has made no difference in his friendships and the humblest can obtain from him an audience.

FRANCIS FREMONT FRAKES

Francis Fremont Frakes, a well-known carpenter of Pontiac, Illinois, was born in Avoca township, September 12, 1856, a son of Labin and Mary A. (Tracy) Frakes. The mother was born at Sandy Creek, New York, not far from Syracuse, a daughter of

A. E. Tracy, and came here about the same time as her sister, Mrs. Maria Owens, a pioneer of Pontiac, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume.

Labin Frakes, father of our subject, was born in the southern part of this state, near the Missouri line, and as a young man came to Pontiac, where he purchased property. He was a tailor by trade, but here he engaged in the real estate business and also conducted a livery stable and stage and transfer line between Pontiac and Bloomington. He was married here and later moved to Nevada City, Missouri, where he owned property. He also built a large livery stable at that place and ran a stage between Sadlia to Fort Scott. After the railroad was built he removed to Sullivan county, Indiana, and while there the Civil wr broke out and he enlisted. He participated in the first and second battles of Bull Run, and was wounded in the latter engagement, being taken to Beverly, West Virginia, where he died from the effects of his wounds. His wife then returned to Pontiac, where she spent the remainder of her life.

After the death of his father Francis F. Frakes lived with his aunt, Mrs. Maria Owens, in Pontiac, for seven years, and attended school. The only school house then in the place stood on the banks of the river near the jail. He served a two years' apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade with Andrew Pierce, and later was with William Holmes, during which time he helped erect many of the early buildings of Pontiac. As a journeman he worked in most of the buildings erected at that time, and also those built in later years, including the Sterry block. He is now one of the oldest carpenters of the city in years of continuous service, and is an expert and skillful workman.

On the 24th of March, 1878, Mr. Frakes was united in marriage with Miss Orilla England, a native of Pontiac and a daughter of Rue England, who came here from Ohio in pioneer days. By this union were born six children, namely: Orville Leon and Rudy Rue, who are both employed in the shoe factory in Pontiac; Coral, who was graduated from the public schools in 1900; Lorene, Fremont and Emma Susan, who are all attending school. Mrs. Frakes and the children are members of the Episcopal church, while our subject leans toward the Methodist Episcopal church in religious belief. The family is quite well known and highly respected. Mr. Frakes purchased over a half-acre of ground at 1003 West Madison street, and has erected thereon a nice residence which has now been his home for seven years, though he is one of the oldest property holders of the city.

JEAN P. A. VINCENT.

Jean P. A. Vincent, deceased, for many years one of the honored and highly-respected citizens of Pontiac, was born in Detroit, Michigan, January 9, 1827, a son of Narcisse and Clotilda (Prevolsel) Vincent, both of French descent. He died the same year at Detroit when our subject was about eleven years of age, and he was then apprenticed to Charles Buhl, a hat manufacturer of that city, with whom he remained until attaining his majority. There he received his education in the public schools.

At the age of twenty-one, Mr. Vincent was sent by the firm of Buhl Brothers to their Chicago store, where he clerked for one year, and then was employed on a railroad survey

through Bureau county, Illinois. In 1859 he entered the service of the government to go to the northwest with a party to take meteorological observations, receiving his appointment to this position through the influence of General Lewis Cass, of Michigan, who always took a warm personal interest in our subject and befriended him in many ways. Remaining with this expedition over a year and a half, Mr. Vincent returned to Illinois in the fall of 1860, and went to Cairo and also to Vicksburg, where he was in government employ. While at the latter place he was drafted, and served in Company C, Fifty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, until the close of the Civil war, when he returned to Illinois and passed the winter in Wenona. In the following spring he moved to Pontiac, where he was engaged in the sale of pumps, etc., for about five years, when, on account of failing health, he retired from active business.

In Lacon, Illinois, August 17, 1861, Mr. Vincent was united in marriage with Miss Emma Stevens, a daughter of Nathaniel W. and Mary (Mix) Stevens. In early life her father was a resident of Lowell, Massachusetts, but shortly after his marriage removed to Lacon, Illinois, where his death occurred. His wife died at Spring Valley, this state, in 1888, at the age of seventy-four years.

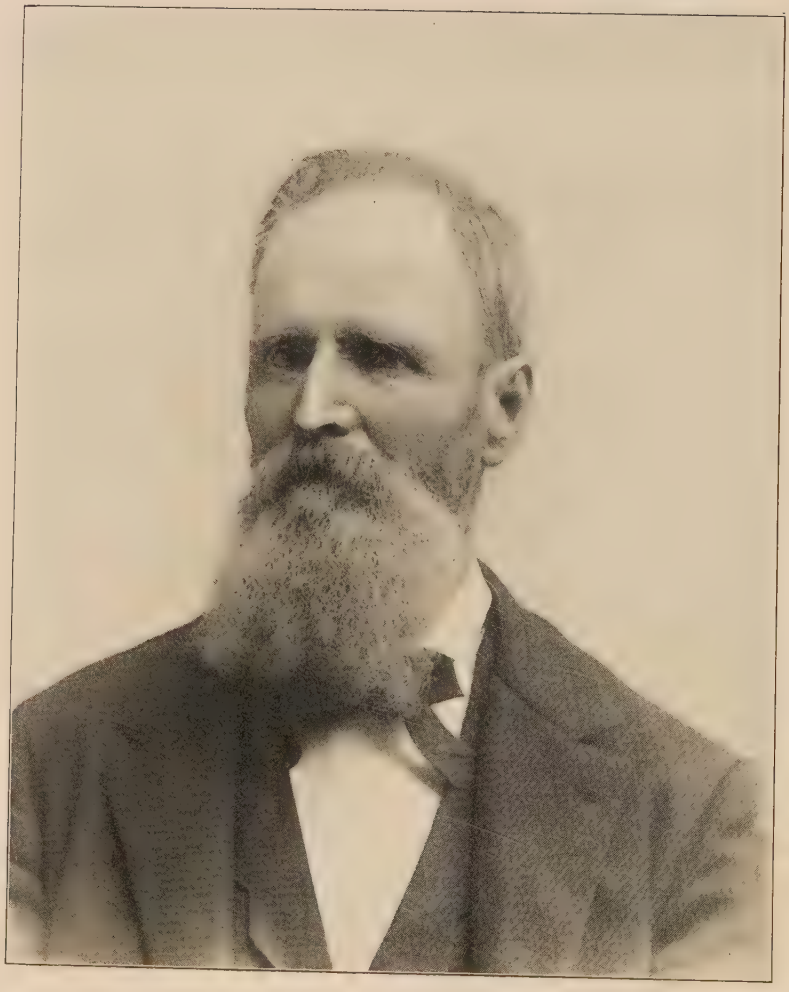
Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Vincent. Lewis Cass, the elder, died in Henry, Illinois, at the age of fifteen months. He was named for General Lewis Cass, of Detroit, previously mentioned as a friend of Mr. Vincent. Nathaniel N., born in Stark county, Illinois, April 8, 1864, is now a resident of Spring Valley, where he is engaged in the manufacture of cigars. He married Lucy O'Keef, by whom he had two children, Pauline and Gwendoline, who, since the death of their mother, have made their home with Mr. Vincent in Pontiac. For his second wife Nathaniel married Agnes Weir. The only child born of this union died in infancy.

Mr. Vincent died at his home in Pontiac from a stroke of paralysis January 16, 1898, at the age of seventy-one years. He had drawn a pension since the close of the war. He was always a stanch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, and was an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, belonging to the latter fraternity in Chicago. An honest, upright man, he was highly respected by all who knew him, and was a faithful and consistent member of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Vincent, who is a most estimable lady, resides in a pleasant home on North Hazel street, Pontiac.

JOEL D. FOSDICK.

Joel D. Fosdick, familiarly known as Squire Fosdick, owns and operates a valuable farm of four hundred acres on section 20, Pike township, whose neat and thrifty appearance well indicates his careful supervision. Substantial improvements are surrounded by well tilled fields and all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm are there found.

Mr. Fosdick was born in Allegany county, New York, October 4, 1832, a son of Aaron C. and Olive (Moon) Fosdick, also natives of that state. The father, who was born in 1808, was a carpenter by trade and was also engaged in the manufacture of lumber for a quarter of a century. In 1844 he



J. D. FOSDICK.

MRS. J. D. FOSDICK.

came to Illinois, making the trip with a team in twenty-two days, and locating in Marshall county, where he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land and opened up a farm. He subsequently purchased two hundred acres, and was engaged in the manufacture of lumber in Peoria county for about six years, after which he returned to his farm in Marshall county, but spent his last years with a daughter in Weston, where he died April 5, 1885.

Our subject was a lad of twelve years when he came with the family to Illinois, and in Marshall county he grew to manhood, his education being obtained in the common schools. He remained at home assisting in the operation of the farm until twenty-five years of age, and was then married, in Boyd's Grove church, Bureau county, May 24, 1857, to Miss Caroline C. Griswold, a native of that county and a daughter of Henry Griswold, one of its early settlers. Of the five children born of this union three are living, namely: Olive, wife of John Scanlan; and Charles and Albert, who are both married and live on the home farm. Delphi E. died at the age of eighteen years, and Joel C. died at the age of eleven.

After his marriage Mr. Fosdick purchased a farm of eighty acres in Saratoga township, Marshall county, but operated one hundred and sixty acres, and on disposing of that place bought eighty acres adjoining his father's place and thirty acres along the creek. This he broke, fenced and improved, and continued its cultivation until 1875, when he traded it for three hundred and twenty acres of his present farm in Pike township, Livingston county, to which he has since added an eighty-acre tract, making a valuble place of four hundred acres. He also owns eighty acres in Odell township.

He commenced life for himself in limited circumstances, but being industrious, enterprising and of good business ability and sound judgment he has steadily prospered, and is to-day one of the most substantial and prosperous men of his community, as well as one of its highly honored and respected citizens. In connection with farming he operated a threshing machine during season for forty years, and in that undertaking was also successful.

Since casting his first presidential ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860 Mr. Fosdick has been a stanch Republican, but has never sought nor desired public office. He has, however, taken an active interest in educational affairs and has been an efficient member of the school board for twenty-five years. Without his knowledge he was elected justice of the peace and filled that office to the satisfaction of all.

EPHRAIM HOUDER.

Ephraim Houder, an industrious and skillful farmer who is now practically living a retired life on section 13, Eppards Point township, Livingston county, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, December 24, 1822, and is a son of Jacob and Barbara (Kurtz) Houder, the former also a native of that county, the latter of Germany. Our subject's paternal grandfather, David Houder, was of German descent. In 1831 the father, with his family, moved to Montgomery county, Ohio, where he cleared and improved a farm, making it his home until his emigration to Illinois in 1856, when he located in Livingston county, buying a farm three miles southeast of Pontiac, upon which

he spent the remainder of his life. He died in 1862, his wife the year following. In their family were six children, three sons and three daughters, of whom Ephraim is the oldest; David is a resident of Pontiac; Elizabeth and Mary both died unmarried; Henry was killed in the Civil war; Martha is the wife of Joseph Thomas, of Pontiac; and Nancy is the wife of Daniel Shafer, of Montgomery county, Ohio.

Our subject received a fair common-school education in Montgomery county, Ohio, and there grew to manhood. He came with the family to this state in 1856, and in October, 1861, enlisted in Company C, Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Potomac and was first under the command of General Butler. They participated in the battles of Hancock, Virginia, Winchester, Chapins farm and Weirbottom Church, where Mr. Houder received a gun shot wound through the ankle and was disabled for a time. His next engagement was at Fort Wagner, followed by the battle of Drury Bluff, and many others. He entered the service as a private, but was promoted to corporal; and as such was honorably discharged December 6, 1865. After his return home he helped carry on the farm for a few years.

In Joliet, Illinois, May 15, 1867, Mr. Houder was united in marriage with Miss Hannah F. Harder, who was born near Port Byron, Wayne county, New York, where she was reared and educated, and when a young lady came to Ilinois. Her father, John I. Harder, was a native of Hudson, New York, and from that place to Wayne county, where he espent the remainder of his life. Mr. and Mrs. Houder began their domestic life upon his father's farm near Pontiac, where they remained several years, and then moved to a farm in Eppards Point township, which was their home three years. The following year was spent in McLean county, and at the end of that time our subject purchased his present farm of eighty acres on section 13, Eppards Point township, Livingston county, which at that time was only partially improved. He has tiled the place, built a barn and made other substantial improvements, but is now living retired, while his only son, Leroy G. Houder, operates the farm. Besides this property he owns another farm of eighty acres in Owego township.

In 1852 Mr. Houder suppported Franklin Pierce for the presidency, but since the organization of the Republican party four years later he has been one of its stalwart supporters and earnest advocates of its principles. He was formerly a member of the school board, but has never sought nor desired public office. At one time he and his family were members of the Christian church at Pontiac, but since it broke up they attend the Baptist church. They are well and favorably known throughout the community in which they reside and justly deserve the high regard in which they are held.

ORLIN CONVERSE.

Orlin Converse, a worthy representative of the agricultural interests of Livingston county, owns and occupies a fine farm of two hundred acres of well-improved and valuable land on section 33, Owego township, and also has an eighty-acre tract two miles from his home. A native of Addison county, Vermont, he was born on Lake Champlain,

under the shadows of the Green mountains, Noember 1, 1834, and is a son of Heman Converse, who was born in the same state in 1799, his ancestors being among the pioneers of Vermont. There his grandfather, Pain Converse, spent his entire life. He was a soldier of the war of 1812. The father grew to manhood in his native county, and married Hannah Crampton, who was born in the same house where our subject's birth occurred, and where both parents died, the father in 1870, at the age of seventy-one years, the mother in 1888.

Orlin Converse passed his boyhood and youth on the home farm, aiding in its operation and attending the common schools of the neighborhood. He came west in 1855, joining his sister Emily, wife of Robert Smith, who had located in Livingston county, Illinois, a year or two previously. He engaged in farming in partnership with his brother-in-law until August, 1862, when he enlisted for three years or during the war in Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He participated in the battles of Resaca and Kenesaw, and all the engagements of the Atlanta campaign, being under fire every day for a month. After the capture of the city the regiment went with Sherman on the march to the sea, and was in the Carolina campaign, taking part in the last battle of the war—that of Bentonville, North Carolina. Marching through Richmond, they proceeded to Washington, D. C., and participated in the grand review in that city. Hostilities having ceased, Mr. Converse was honorably discharged and returned to his home in Illinois. He had lost no time from illness or other causes, with exception of the twenty days' furlough he was given in 1864.

Before entering the service Mr. Converse was married, in this county, January 7, 1862, to Miss Rebecca Rockwood, who was born here. Her father, Daniel Rockwood, was a native of Massachusetts and one of the pioneers of Livingston county, having located here in 1834. He helped to lay out the county seat and organize Owego township, where he took up a claim and entered land, making it his home until his death. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Converse, but Rollin P. enlisted in the Third United States Infantry during the Spanish-American war, and was taken ill and died at Atlanta, Georgia, September 23, 1898. His remains were brought back and interred in Patty cemetery. Jessie, the only daughter, died in 1870, at the age of nearly three years.

Mr. Converse's first purchase of land consisted of forty acres in Owego township where he now resides, and as his financial resources increased he added to it from time to time until he now has over two hundred and eighty acres of fine farming land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings. He commenced life here in limited circumstances, and the success that he has achieved is due entirely to his own well-directed and energetic efforts. After residing here for five years he returned east in 1861 to visit his mother, friends and scenes of his youth. By this time he had accumulated three hundred and fifty dollars in the old George Smith money of Atlanta, Georgia, but one week after his return home it was worth only fifty cents on the dollar, and at the end of another the entire amount was not worth a dollar. He was thus forced to walk back and was six weeks in reaching this county.

Since casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, Mr. Converse has been a stanch supporter of the Republican party, and he most acceptably served as supervisor of his township two terms, during which time he was a member of some important committees. He has ever taken an active and commendable interest in educational affairs, has been a member of the school board twenty years, and clerk of the district during that entire time. He has watched with interest the wonderful development of this region during his residence here and has always borne his part in its upbuilding and advancement.

JUDGE NATHANIEL J. PILLSBURY.

During the last half century the lawyer has been a pre-eminent factor in all affairs of private concern and national importance. He has been depended upon to conserve the best and permanent interests of the whole people and is a recognized power in all the avenues of life. He stands as the protector of the rights and liberties of his fellow men, and is the representative of a profession whose followers, if they would gain honor, fame and success, must be men of merit and ability. Such a one is Judge Pillsbury, who served three terms as circuit judge and is to-day a prominent citizen of Pontiac.

He was born in Shapleigh, York county, Maine, October 21, 1834, a son of Stephen N. and Susan (Averill) Pillsbury, also natives of that county and representatives of good old New England families. He is of the ninth generation in direct descent from William Pillsbury, who came to the new world in 1640 and settled in Dorchester, Massachusetts, where he lived until 1851, and then moved to Newburyport, the same state, where he purchased land that is still in possession of his lineal descendants. From him all the Pillsburys in this country are descended. The father of our subject, who was a farmer and machinist by occupation, continued his residence in York county, Maine, until after the birth of all of his six children, and held different local offices there, including those of selectman and school agent. In the fall of 1855 he removed to Bureau county, Illinois, where our subject had located the previous spring, and engaged in farming near Princeton for three years. In 1857 both father and son purchased raw land in Nebraska township, Livingston county, where the former made a good home, living there until 1884, when he moved to Pontiac and built a residence. This continued to be his home throughout the remainder of his life, though he died in Iowa. In politics he was first a Whig and later a Republican, and he held dofferent township offices here. He was born July 12, 1812, and died in November, 1890, while his wife was born in August, 1812, and also died in Iowa, in the fall of 1885. She was a daughter of Joseph Averill.

Judge Pillsbury received a good common school education and also attended an academy in his native county for one term. He remained on the home farm with his parents until 1851, after which he engaged in teaching school for two years. He accompanied the family on their removal to Saco, Maine, where he was in the employ of the York Manufacturing Company for a time and also taught school until 1855. On the 1st of January, that year, he married Miss Eliza J. Cole, and the same spring, being threatened with consumption, he came to Illinois.

Though the journey was made by rail it proved a long and tedious one, taking six days to reach Chicago.

As previously stated the Judge first located in Bureau county, and in 1857 bought a farm in Nebraska township, this county, which he operated until the spring of 1863. Moving to Pontiac he entered the office of Samuel Fleming, and after studying law for some time was admitted to the bar by examination. He then formed a partnership with Mr. Fleming and in a short time had acquired a lucrative practice and excellent reputation as a sound and honest lawyer. In 1869 he was elected a member of the constitutional convention which met the following year, and in 1873 was elected judge of the thirteenth judicial circuit, then composed of Livingston, Kankakee and Iroquois counties. Four years later the circuit was enlarged by adding McLean and Ford counties and became the eleventh. He was re-elected in 1879 and again in 1885, serving in all eighteen years to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. He was also one of the first judges of the appellate court, being on that bench ten and a half years from 1877, and an undeniable proof of his popularity is found in his re-elections He wrote many opinions that are to be found in the first sixteen volumes of the appellate court reports of the state of Illinois

In 1891 Judge Pillsbury was urged to become a candidate for a fourth term by the bar and people generally, but on account of injuries received during his second term he did not feel physically able to undertake the work. On the 1st of June, 1882, while returning to his home from Chicago the train on which he was a passenger was besieged by a mob of union strikers who desired to capture and beat certain non-union laborers who were being carried to their homes by the railroad company. The rioters began firing in and about the cars and the Judge received a painful wound from which he has never recovered. He held the railroad company liable and brought suit to recover damages. After a long and tedious litigation he carried it to a successful conclusion, although the great majority of the bar of the state, who knew of the circumstances, were against his views. The case is reported in volume 123, reports of the supreme court, being written by Judge John M. Scott, of Bloomington.

For some time after his retirement from the bench Judge Pillsbury attended to some selected cases, but was not able to do a heavy general practice. He owns considerheavy general practice. He owns considerable real estate in Pontiac and built the first two-story double flat building ever erected in the city, it being planned by himself. At one time he had a valuable farm of four hundred and fifty acres south of the city, and at different times has owned considerable real estate in Nebraska, Kansas and California. He still has a fine ranch in southern California, devoted to oranges and lemons, and has spent a number of winters on the Pacific coast on account of his health. He has traveled quite extensively and crossed the continent a dozen times.

The Judge and his wife have a family of three children, namely: Clara A. is the wife of S. E. Sims, of Pontiac, and they have one child, Gladys; C. Avis is the wife of E. J. Walker, of Sheridan, Indiana, and they have one son, Ernest P.; and Dale E., at home, is engaged in the real estate and loan business. Mrs. Pillsbury is a member of the Presbyterian church.

In his political affiliations Judge Pills-

bury is a Republican and has been a delegate to different state, county and judicial conventions. Socially he is a Knight Templar Mason, a member of Pontiac Lodge, No. 344, F. & A. M.; Fairbury Chapter, R. A. M; and St. Paul Commandery, No. 34, K. T. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows lodge and encampment, in which he has held all the offices and has been a member of the grand lodge and grand encampment since 1868. He was chairman of the building committee and of the trustees that erected the Odd Fellows block, but gave up his official position when elected to the bench. He is a man of high intellectuality, broad human sympathies and tolerance, and is imbued with fine sensibilities and clearly defined principles. Honor and integrity are synonymous with his name and he enjoys the respect, confidence and high regard of the people of this section of the state.

NELSON D. LAWRENCE.

Nelson D. Lawrence, one of Livingston county's thrifty and prosperous farmers residing on section 26, Pontiac township, within a mile of the city of Pontiac, was born in Warren county, Indiana, June 26, 1850, and is a son of Richard Lawrence, whose birth occurred in Ohio March 8, 1826. His grandfather, William Lawrence, a native of Delaware, was one of the early settlers of Ohio and also of Warren county, Indiana. In the latter state Richard Lawrence grew to manhood and in Vermillion county, Indiana, he married Amanda Deyo, a native of that county. In 1854 they came to Livingston county, Illinois, and settled on a tract of one hundred and sixty acres of wild land near Pontiac, which Mr. Lawrence transformed into a good farm. While a resident of Indiana he conducted a wagon shop, but he soon became a thorough farmer and acquired a comfortable competence. He was a man of fair education and sound judgment and was well and favorably known. He spent his last years in this county, but died while at Kirksville, Missouri, March 16, 1894. His first wife had passed away many years before, dying October 24, 1858. She was born February 6, 1830.

On the home farm Nelson D. Lawrence grew to manhood, assisting in the operation of the same and attending the local schools. He remained with his father until grown and then worked by the month as a farm hand for seven or eight years, after which he rented land and engaged in farming on his own account. In 1880 he purchased his present farm and since his marriage, in 1885, he has resided thereon, having improved the place with a good residence and substantial outbuildings. He has broken thirty acres of virgin soil, has laid many rods of tiling and converted the farm into one of the most valuable of its size in this section of the county.

Mr. Lawrence was married, April 9, 1885, to Miss Caroline M. McKee, a daughter of James and Nancy (Sterrett) McKee, natives of Ohio. Her father was born in Brown county, that state, June 19, 1813, and brought his family to Illinois in 1856, locating in Livingston county, where he purchased land and successfully engaged in farming for some years, but for the past five years has lived retired with Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence. His first wife, who was the mother of Mrs. Lawrence, died September 5, 1868. She was born July 14, 1822, and married Mr. McKee March 17,

1842. Ten children were born of that union, five sons and five daughters, of whom nine reached mature years, and five sons and two daughters are still living. Mr. McKee was postmaster of Rook's Creek postoffice for many years. Mrs. Lawrence was reared and educated in this county and by her marriage to our subject has become the mother of four children, one of whom died in infancy. Octa D. and James are students in the home school. Alethea M. died June 29, 1900.

In politics Mr. Lawrence is independent, voting for the men he believes best qualified to fill the offices, regardless of party lines. He takes an active interest in educational affairs and for fifteen years has been a most efficient member of the school board, serving as clerk of the board five or six years. His estimable wife is a member of the Presbyterian church and both are held in high regard b vall who have the pleasure of their acquaintance.

CHARLES R. TRUITT.

Charles R. Truitt, the well-known and popular editor and proprietor of the Sentinel of Pontiac, was born near Hillsboro, Montgomery county, Illinois, July 22, 1858, a son of Samuel and Cynthia Ann (Carr) Truitt. The father was born about 1818, not far from Louisville, Kentucky, where he grew to manhood and married. On coming to Illinois he first located in Greene county, where he spent a few years, and then made an overland trip to California during the early days of the gold excitement, remaining there three years and meeting with fair success. He thus obtained a good start in life, and on his return to this state purchased land in Montgomery county, becoming one of its early settlers and extensive farmers, owning and operating some five hundred acres of land. There he spent the remainder of his life, dying in February, 1863. He took quite an active interest in educational affairs, but was never an aspirant for political honors. His wife survived him for many years, dying in the summer of 1894. Se was a faithful member of the Christian church and a most estimable woman.

In the county of his nativity Charles R. Truitt was reared, acquiring his early education in its common schools. He is a graduate of the Williston Seminary, a preparatory school of East Hampton, Massachusetts,and for three years attended La Fayette College at Easton, Pennsylvania. Later he successfully engaged in teaching for some years, being assistant principal of the public schools at Hillsboro. He next became interested in newspaper work in the office of the Hillsboro Journal and later purchased the paper, which he conducted about fourteen years with good success. While there he took an active part in Republican politics, was a member of the county and township central committees and served as a delegate to the state convention of his party. Under President Harrison he served as deputy collector of internal revenue in the eight of Springfield district for two years.

After selling the Hillsboro Journal, in 1895, Mr. Truitt was out of business one year and then went to Belvidere, Illinois, and purchased a half interest in the Belvidere Northwestern, which he sold in the spring of 1897. In July of that year he came to Pontiac and bought the Sentinel, which is the oldest paper in the county, being established in 1857, and which has always been the official Republican paper of the county.

It is an eight-page weekly journal with a large circulation, which extends all over the county, and is in a flourishing condition under the able management of our subject, who has entire charge of its publication. Socially he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is past grand in the latter lodge at both Hillsboro and Belvidere. He attends and supports the Presbyterian church, of which his wife is a member.

On the 1st of October, 1882, Mr. Truitt married Miss Libbie E. Webber, who was born near Collinsville, Madison county, Illinois, a daughter of Nicholas Webber, and they have become the parents of three children: Ora, Albert and Beulah.

JEREMIAH COLLINS.

Jeremiah Collins is one of the representative agriculturists of Esmen township, his fine farm of two hundred and forty acres being conveniently located on sections 23 and 25, within two miles and a half of Cayuga. He was born in Miami county, Ohio, January 22, 1831, and is a son of Daniel Collins, a native of Darke county, the same state. His grandfather, Captain Jeremiah Collins, was born and reared in France and came to the United States with La Fayette to fight for American independence. He held a captain's commission in the Revolutionary war. His last days were spent in Darke county, Ohio, where he opened a farm. There Daniel Collins grew to manhood and married Nancy Penney, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of James Penney, who was born in Virginia and was later one of the pioneers of Kentucky. In early life the father of our subject followed blacksmithing in his native state until 1835, when he moved to Michigan and settled at St. Joseph, but three years later he crossed the lake and came to La Salle county, Illinois, becoming one of the first blacksmiths of Ottawa, where he arrived July 16, 1838, and where he made his home for some years. In 1844 he located on a farm in Rutland township and resided there until crossing the plains to California in 1850. After two years spent in the mines he returned east by way of the Panama route and New York. He continued to live on his farm for many years, but died at the home of a daughter in Seneca about 1890. His wife had passed away some years previously. Of their thirteen children, six reached years of maturity, but only Jeremiah and Maria, wife of George Pope, of Seneca, Illinois, are now living.

Our subject grew to manhood in La Salle county and obtained a rather limited education in the district schools. In 1852 he, too, crossed the plains to the Pacific slope, being six months upon the road, and arriving in Volcano, California, September 16, that year. He spent three years in that state, but only engaged in mining for a short time. He raised a crop of fall wheat, worked in the lumber woods over two years and in the fall of 1855 operated a threshing machine. By way of the Panama route he returned home and saw the first railroad train he ever saw on the isthmus. From New York he proceeded to Chicago and arrived home in October, 1855. He purchased a farm in La Salle county, which he operated until 1872 and then sold, coming to Livingston county. He bought one hundred and sixty acres of land where he now resides; not a

JEREMIAH COLLINS.

MRS. JEREMIAH COLLINS.

tree or shrub adorned the place, with the exception of a wild rose, and the house was small, but to its improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his energies and now has one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. He has erected thereon a pleasant residence, two good barns and other outbuildings, has tiled the land and placed it under a high state of cultivation and has set out both fruit and shade trees, which add not a little to the attractive appearance of the place. He has also added an eighty-acre tract to his first purchase.

In La Salle county, November 19, 1865, Mr. Collins married Miss Eliza J. Turner, a native of England and a daughter of George Turner, who came to the United States in 1844 and started as operator in the first woolen mills at Dayton, Illinois. Mrs. Collins died in La Salle county February 6, 1872, leaving five children: George; William; Martha J., wife of Simon Slyder, of Owego township, Livingston county; Charles; and Warren. Mrs. Slyder is the owner of a can of cherries put up by her mother in July, 1859, and they are still in a perfect state of preservation and which are claimed to be the oldest in the state. All of the sons are married and live in Esmen township with exception of Warren, who makes his home in Pontiac township. Mr. Collins was again married, in Livingston county, October 20, 1872, his second union being with Miss Rachel Wilkerson, who was born and reared in Boonesboro, Kentucky, and came to McLean county, Illinois, with her parents, John and Mary Wilkerson. By this marriage four children were born, namely: Mary, wife of Samuel Spears, a farmer of Pontiac township; Grace, wife of Arthur Donahue, a farmer of Minnesota; John E. and Sadie, both at home.

Politically Mr. Collins and all his sons are stanch supporters of the Republican party. He was originally a Democrat and cast his first presidential vote for Franklin Pierce in 1852. On the 5th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company C, Eighty-eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, but was soon discharged for disability, after being confined in the hospital at Nashville for some time. He is now a member of the T. Lyle Dickey Post, No. 105, G. A. R., at Pontiac. Always a friend of education and our public schools, he was for some years an active member of the school board both in La Salle and Livingston counties. He has been a resident of this state for sixty-two years and has therefore witnessed almost its entire development, at the same time aiding in its advancement and progress.

ALBERT L. YATES.

Albert L. Yates, a successful veterinary surgeon of Dwight, Illinois, was born in this county November 21, 1868, a son of Dr. Christopher and Almira (Beal) Yates, both natives of New York, the former born in Montgomery county December 25, 1837, the latter in Yates county December 23, 1842. The father, who was also a prominent veterinary surgeon, enlisted in the government service in that capacity during the Civil war and served over three years. After the war he located in Livingston county, Illinois, and engaged in farming on the Smith farm in Dwight township for some time, then removed to Kankakee county and from there to Iroquois county, but in 1880 he returned to this county and again

took up his residence on a farm in Dwight township. His sons then being old enough to carry on the farm work, he devoted his time to the practice of veterinary surgery. In 1885 he moved to the village of Dwight and from that time until his death he gave his entire attention to practice. Politically he was an active worker for the Republican party and held a number of local offices in Livingston county. He was a man of fine physique, being over six feet in height, was well informed, intelligent and generous to a fault, and possessed a kindly disposition. Fraternally he was a member of the Masonic order and Grand Army of the Republic. His wife died in Dwight township October 27, 1881, and his death occurred in the village November 17, 1892.

After the death of the mother the eldest daughter took her place as far as possible, and the family remained together on the farm, which the boys operated. There were eight children, namely: George C. and William E., who are now farmers of South Dakota; Albert L., our subject; Nellie M., wife of John Perkins, of Montgomery, Kane county, Illinois; Bert, a farmer and school teacher of South Dakota; Harry, who was born July 2, 1877, and died December 21, 1880; Alice, wife of William Neel, of Kane county; and Lefa M., wife of Fred Neel, a brother of William.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed upon the home farm and as he grew up he received excellent practical training and experience in veterinary work from association with his father. He assisted him in his work and also pursued a course of study under his direction. He then passed a creditable examination and was granted a license by the state board. After his father's death he succeeded to his practice and was alone until 1895, when he formed a partnership with M. L. Livingston, a graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College, but after being associated with him in practice for two years he purchased his interest and has since been alone. Possessed of excellent ability and skill in his chosen profession he has built up a large practice, and by his straightforward course has won the esteem of the community in which he lives. Politically the Doctor is a stanch Republican, and fraternally is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Sons of Veterans.

Mr. Yates was married, May 29, 1900, to Miss Agnes Chalmers, of Dwight, which was her home from childhood. She is a member of the Congregational church of Dwight.

SAMUEL H. NICHOLS.

Samuel H. Nichols, a dealer in paints, wall paper, etc., at No. 113-115 West Water street, Pontiac, and one of its leading business men, was born in that city January 1, 1863, a son of Samuel B. and Lucretia (Fox) Nichols. The father was a native of Norwich, England, where he was reared and educated. At the age of twenty years he crossed the broad Atlantic and settled in Hamilton, Canada, where he was engaged as a sailor on the great lakes and followed that life for some years. He came to Pontiac, Illinois, on the 4th of July, 1853, arriving in this city on the first train that came over the Chicago & Alton Railroad. He had been previously married, at Cincinnati, Ohio, to Miss Lucretia Fox, a native of Keene, New Hampshire, and a daughter of Samuel and Dorothy Fox, and by this union

were born two children: Mrs. L. G. Schwartz, of Chicago, and Samuel H., our subject. After coming to Pontiac the father engaged in the restaurant business, which he continued until his death, which occurred September 30, 1865. He was a soldier of the Mexican war and a man highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him. His wife survived him many years, dying at Pontiac, in 1887, at the age of sixty-three years.

The subject of this sketch is indebted to the public schools of Pontiac for his educational advantages. During his youth he learned the painter's and paper hanger's trade and worked as a journeyman until 1884, when he embarked in the same business on his own account, and has succeeded in building up a large and lucrative trade. He has the only exclusive wall paper and paint store in the city or in fact in the county, and occupies two large sales rooms, No. 113 and 115 West Water street, keeping on hand a large stock of paints, oils, brushes, wall paper, room moulding, etc. Mr. Nichols devotes his entire time to the store, taking contracts for large jobs of painting and paper hanging, and furnishes employment to a large force of skilled workmen.

On the 8th of September, 1888, in Pontiac, Mr. Nichols married Miss Mollie Harrison, of Carthage, Missouri, a daughter of John W. and Mary Ann Harrison, of that city, where her father is engaged in business as a dealer in staple and fancy groceries at 731 West Chestnut street. At present Mr. Nichols is living at 705 West Howard street, Pontiac, in a modern two-story frame dwelling erected by him in 1898.

He is an active and prominent member of Pontiac Camp, No. 5, M. W. A., of which he is at present banker, and a member of the Pioneer Reserve Association, in which order he is serving as local deputy. Religiously he is a member of the Presbyterian church. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and in the spring of 1900 was its candidate for alderman from the second ward, where he is so well and favorably known, it having always been his home. As a business man he ranks among the ablest in the city, being enterprising, energetic and industrious, and the success that he has achieved in life is due to his own well-directed efforts, for in starting out in life for himself he was without capital or influential friends to aid him, but to-day is a prosperous and successful business man.

JOHN MUNSON.

John Munson, one of the honored veterans of the Civil war and a well known farmer residing on section 20, Owego township, four miles from Pontiac, was born November 28, 1842, in Denmark, where he was reared and educated. He worked on a farm and learned the carpenter's trade before his emigration to America in 1860. On landing in this country he proceeded to La Salle county, Illinois, where he found employment as a farm hand for one year. In 1862 he enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which formed a part of the Army of the Tennessee, and he participated in the battle of Hartsville, Tennessee, where he was taken prisoner with his regiment. He was held a captive at Murfreesboro until paroled and sent to Camp Chase, Ohio, and later to Camp Douglas, Chicago, where he was exchanged at the end of six weeks. In

the meantime he contracted inflammatory rheumatism and was sent to the hospital. When he had sufficiently recovered his health to be about he was placed on hospital duty and served in that capacity until honorably discharged at the close of the war, in 1865. He has never yet fully recovered from the effects of his army service.

On receiving his discharge Mr. Munson joined a brother in Livingston county, but later returned to La Salle county, where he spent one year. At the end of that time he located permanently in this county, where he and his brother operated a rented farm for two or three years, and for three years he clerked in a store in Pontiac. Subsequently he engaged in the clothing and gents furnishing business in that city for five years, and at the end of that time traded his stock of goods for a farm west of Pontiac, but sold that place at the end of a year and bought the farm in Owego township where he now resides. At that time it was but slightly improved, but he has planted an orchard, erected a neat and substantial residence and a good barn, and to-day has a well-improved and valuable farm of eighty acres. He also has another eighty acres on section 18, the same township. This property has all been acquired by industry, perseverance and good management, for he came to this county empty-handed and has had to make his own way in the world unaided.

On the 30th of December, 1874, Mr. Munson was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Duff, a native of Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, who came to Illinois with her father, Charles Duff, in 1866, at the age of about fifteen years, locating on a farm in Pontiac township, this county. By this union were born two children. Eva, the elder, is now the wife of Benjamin Miller, a farmer of Owego township, and they have two children, Wilbur John and Frances Elizabeth. Louis D., the only son of our subject, assists in the operation of the home farm. Mr. and Mrs. Munson have given a home to a little girl, Toleto Hansen, whom they are now rearing.

Politically Mr. Munson is a stanch supporter of the Republican party, having cast his first presidential vote for U. S. Grant in 1868, and for every nominee of the party since that time. Socially he is a Master Mason, and religiously both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Pontiac. They are widely and favorably known and have a host of warm friends in the community where they reside.

HORATIO N. VAUGHAN.

Horatio N. Vaughan, whose home is at No. 522 North Chicago street, Pontiac, Illinois, is one of the prominent citizens of that place, a leader in musical circles. He is a native of Springfield, Sullivan county, New Hampshire, and a son of John and Mary (Moran) Vaughan. Her paternal grandparents were Samuel and Elizabeth (Rider) Vaughan, natives of Halifax, Nova Scotia, who moved from there to St. Martin's, New Brunswick, where the grandfather died at an advanced age. He followed the ship carpenter's trade throughout life, but also devoted a great deal of time to the study of music and was a proficient player on several instruments, his favorite being the violin. He was a member of an orchestra and band in St. Johns, New Brunswick.

John Vaughan, the father of our subject, was also born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and was married at St. Martin's, New Brunswick, but soon afterward he left Canada and removed to Sullivan county, New Hampshire, where all of his ten children were born, our subject being the youngest. There he engaged in farming on quite an extensive scale, though, during his early life in Nova Scotia, he had followed the ship carpenter's trade. In 1837 he came to Illinois and was one of the first settlers of Princeton, where he conducted a hotel for ten years and then lived retired until his death, which occurred in 1877, when he was eighty-seven years of age. Only two of his family are now living, our subject and his brother, John, a retired merchant of Seattle, Washington.

Until he attained his majority, Horatio N. Vaughan remained under the parental roof and was educated in Illinois by private tutors. At the age of twelve years he commenced the study of music and received instruction on the violin from some of the best local teachers of that day. He continued his studies for a number of years and he has since given his time and attention to that art as a profession. About 1862 he became connected with the band and orchestra of a theatrical company, and, as leader of the orchestra, traveled with some of the leading theatrical and show companies as the Van Amberg, and others, at that time. Leaving the road in 1872, he taught music as a band instructor in various cities of Illinois and Wisconsin until locating in Pontiac in December, 1877. Here he formed a class on the violin, and with the exception of a few years spent in Seattle, Washington, he has since taught music at this place. About nine years ago he organized and became leader of the Vaughan orchestra of Pontiac, consisting of fourteen pieces, which still exists and is the leading musical organization of the city, its services being in great demand. Most of the players were former pupils of Mr. Vaughan.

In May, 1880, at Pontiac, Mr. Vaughan married Miss Margaret A. Stites, a daughter of Dr. J. J. Stites, one of the prominent physicians of this city. She is a highly educated lady and also an accomplished musician, receiving her musical education at the College of Music in Cincinnati, under the management of Theodore Thomas, one of the most noted musicians this country has produced. She plays first violin in her husband's orchestra, and as teacher of the piano forte has a large private class. She is also supervisor of music in the public schools of Pontiac, a position she has most creditably filled for a number of years, and which requires much of her time and attention every day. As will be seen Mr. and Mrs. Vaughan are among the most prominent musicians of the city and are entirely devoted to their art.

OWEN FEEHAN.

Owen Feehan, one of the most popular and influential citizens of Nevada township, Livingston county, whose home is on section 20, was born in Grundy county, Illinois, June 15, 1861, and is a son of Owen and Maria (Killian) Feehan, natives of Kings county, Ireland, where the father followed the occupation of farming. Soon after their marriage they emigrated to the United States and took up their residence in Grundy county, Illinois, where he purchased land, making their home there until 1869, when they removed to Nevada town-

ship, Livingston county. Here he had previously purchased the south half of section 20, which at that time was unimproved land, but was soon transformed by him into one of the most desirable farms in the locality. He continued to reside there until the spring of 1892, when he moved to Odell and has since lived in retirement from active labor, enjoying a well-earned rest. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church of that place, and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them. To this worthy couple were born ten children, eight of whom reached man and womanhood, namely: Patrick, a resident of Nevada township; John, of Seward county, Nebraska; Lawrence, of Nevada township, this county; Ellen, wife of J. C. Lennan, a merchant of Odell; Charles, a molder by trade and a resident of Morris, Illinois; Lizzie, wife of John Carey, a farmer living near Kinsman, Grundy county; Owen, our subject, and Edward, who was accidentally killed by the train at a crossing at Kinsman.

The subject of this review began his education in the schools of Grundy county, and after coming to this county, at the age of eight years, continued his studies in the schools of Nevada township. When he first located here the nearest school was three miles from his home. He continued to attend school at intervals until he attained his majority, and acquired a good, practical education.

On the 1st of June, 1887, Mr.. Feehan married Miss Julia A. Feehan, who was born in Grundy county, June 18, 1861, and successfully engaged in teaching for seven years prior to her marriage, having charge of the school in district No. 4, where she now resides, besides six years in other counties. She was educated in Utica, La Salle county, Illinois. Her father, John Feehan, was a native of Ireland and came to the new world in early youth. He resided in La Salle county for many years, but his last days were spent in Grundy county, where he died in 1891. He had a family of seven children, six of whom grew to maturity, and in order of birth these are as follows: Sarah, wife of M. J. Dempsey, who is engaged in the shoe business in Chicago; Kate, widow of J. M. Dempsey, who was engaged in the grocery and meat business in that city, where she still resides; John, a detective and sergeant on the Chicago police force; Thomas P., who conducts a grocery and meat market in the same city; Julia A., wife of our subject, and Vincent, who is in the employ of the Cuhady Meat Company, of Chicago. To Mr. and Mrs. Feehan were born five children, namely: Edith Balbina, who died at the age of eleven months; Mary Alice, Grace Agnes and Julia K., all in school, and Elizabeth Veronica, a bright baby of two and a half years.

After his marriage, Mr. Feehan moved to Chicago, where he was engaged in business for two years, but at the end of that time he returned to Livingston county. He operated rented land for a time, and then located on the old homestead, where he is operating one hundred and sixty acres of well improved and highly cultivated land, and is meeting with good success.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Feehan are members of the Catholic church of Odell, of which Father Griffey is pastor, and he also belongs to St. Paul's Court, No. 618, Catholic Order of Foresters, of the same place, of which he is one of the trustees, and is a member of Nevada Camp, No. 4070, Modern Woodmen of America, of which he is advisor. As a Democrat he has always taken an active part

in politics; has been a delegate to county conventions a number of times, and is now a member of the township central committee of his party. On attaining his majority, he was elected school director, which office he held for six years, and for one year he served as collector. He was road commissioner the same length of time, and assessor six years. In the spring of 1900 he was elected supervisor of his township and resigned the office of assessor.

His public service has been most exemplary and his private life has been marked by the utmost fidelity to duty. He has given his support to all measures for the public good, and is justly numbered among the valued and useful citizens of his community.

WILLIAM F. C. LEHMANN.

Germany has furnished to the new world many of its most enterprising and progressive citizens—men who have taken an active part in the development of the locality in which they make their home, and have exerted a great influence for good in the community. Mr. Lehmann is a worthy representative of this class. He has met with well deserved success in his adopted country, and is now the owner of a valuable farm of four hundred acres on section 29, Owego township, Livingston county, Illinois, four miles and a half east of Pontiac.

Mr. Lehmann was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, May 1, 1853, and attended the schools of his native land, but is wholly self-educated in English. In 1871, at the age of eighteen years he emigrated to the United States and first located in Peoria county, Illinois, where some friends from the fatherland were living. He obtained work on the farm of William Spicer, a substantial farmer of that county, who proved a good friend to the German lad, and he remained in his employ four years. In 1876 he came to near Chenoa, in Livingston county, where he commenced life for himself upon a rented farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which he successfully operated for seven years. At length, in 1882, he was able to purchase one hundred and twenty acres of land in Owego township, where he now resides. At that time it was only partially improved, and the house standing thereon was quite small, but it has since been replaced by a more commodious and substantial residence, the land has been tiled, fences built, also a good barn, and water works and stock scales added, making it one of the best equipped farms in the locality. He has also extended the boundaries of his farm until they now include four hundred acres of rich and fertile land. This property has all been acquired through his own well-directed efforts, and he is to-day one of the substantial men of Owego township.

In this county, Mr. Lehmann was married, January 22, 1877, to Miss Augusta, Louise Leduc, who was born in New York City. Her father, General Louis Leduc, was a native of France and a highly educated gentleman, speaking eight different languages. He was an officer in the French army and took part in several wars. Later he came to America and was married in New York city, where he made his home for some time, but subsequently came to Livingston county, Illinois. Here Mrs. Lehmann was reared and educated by her father. Of the ten children born to our subject and his wife, two died in infancy. Those living are: Lena, now the wife of George Rights, a farmer of

Owego township, by whom she had a son, William; Albert, who assists his father in the operation of the farm; Emma, William, Mattie, Julius, Rudolph and Willis Ellis, all at home.

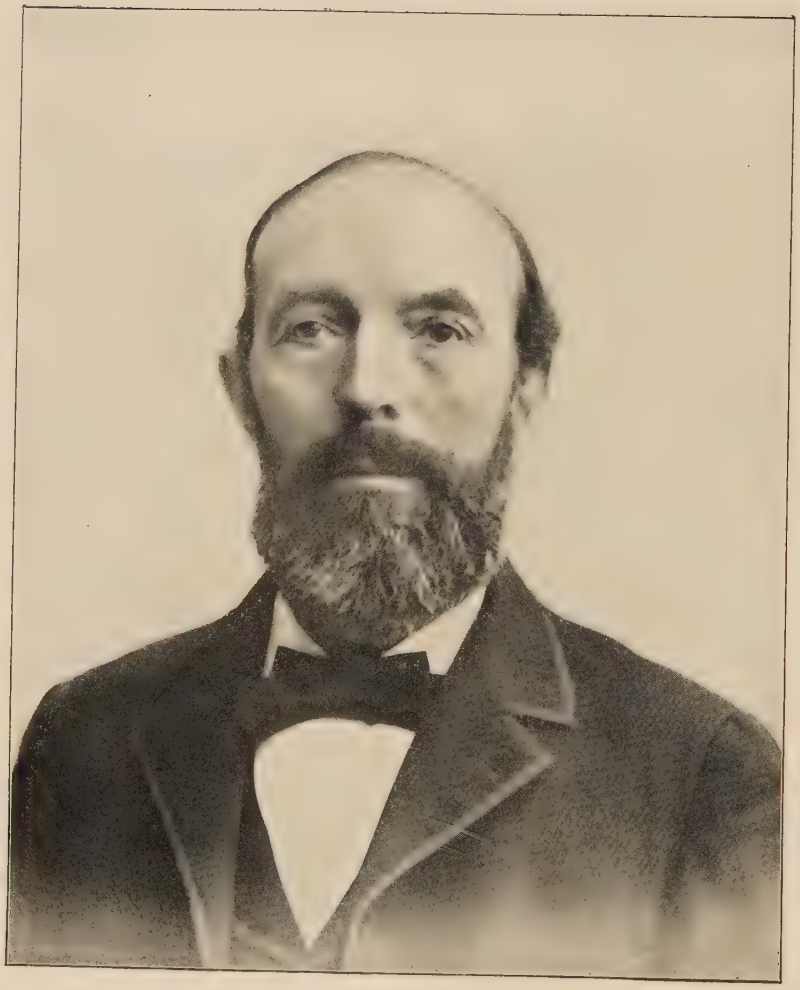
By his ballot Mr. Lehmann supports the men and measures of the Republican party, but has never cared for official honors. He is now serving as Canada thistle commissioner and as school director, having been president of the district board for fourteen years. He and his wife are prominent and influential members of the German Baptist church, and he takes a very active part in Sunday school work, serving as president of the township Sunday school society seven years. For some years he was superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Sunday school, and now holds the same position in the Swigart Sunday school. For a few years he was superintendent of both Sunday schools at the same time. In all the relations of life he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, whether public or private, and justly deserves in the high regard in which he is uniformly held.

JOHN KLEIN.

John Klein, one of Pike township's most progressive and public-spirited citizens, owns and operates a well-improved and valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres on section 22. He is a native of Germany, born in Rheinpfalz, Bavaria, August 24, 1833, and is a son of Jacob and Margaret (Weiser) Klein, also natives of that country, where the father followed the weaver's trade. In 1855, accompanied by his family, he emigrated to America and located in Tazewell county, where some of his friends from Germany had previously settled and where he rented a little house. At that time he had four sons and one daughter, all of whom worked and it took their wages for one year to pay their passage across the Atlantic and the expenses of their trip to this state. The second year the father rented a farm in Deer Creek township, Tazewell county, for one-half the crop raised, and in 1864 purchased a farm in Pike township, Livingston county, upon which he spent the remainder of his life, dying there in December, 1878, his wife in 1874. In their family were seven children, of whom four sons and one daughter are still living.

Our subject acquired a good practical education in the common schools of his native land, which he attended for eight years, but his knowledge of the English language has been self-acquired. At the age of fourteen he commenced earning his own livelihood, working out while in Germany, and for four years after coming to this country he worked for and assisted his father in getting a start. He then began life for himself as a farmer upon rented land.

In Tazewell county Mr. Klein was married, January 25, 1864, to Miss Margaret Moschel, also a native of Bavaria and a daughter of Christian and Margaret Moschel. Her father, who was a cabinet-maker by trade, died in Germany, and subsequently she and her mother and seven children came to the new world in 1862, locating in Tazewell county, Illinois, where she lived for several years and then came to Pike township, Livingston county, where she purchased a farm and there died October 4, 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Klein are the parents of seven children, namely: Katie, wife of Theodore Lommatsch, of Pike town-



JOHN KLEIN.

MRS. JOHN KLEIN.

ship, has two children, Clara and Ralph; Lena, wife of Louis Lommatsch, of the same township, has one son, Elmer; Anna, at home; John married Miss Katie Schoenbeck, and they have one daughter, Mabel, and he operates a part of his father's farm; Matilda, August and Emelia, at home; one, the oldest of the family, died in infancy.

For four years after his marriage Mr. Klein continued to rent land in Tazewell county, and in 1869 came to Livingston county, locating upon a partially improved farm of forty acres in Pike township, which he had purchased a year or two before. As his financial resources have increased he has added to his landed possessions from time to time until he now has two hundred and forty acres of rich and arable land, which he has placed under excellent cultivation and improved with a good set of farm buildings. His success in life is due to his industry, enterprise and good management. He is a man of good business ability and sound judgment, and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

Originally Mr. Klein was identified with the Democratic party and cast his first presidential vote for Samuel J. Tilden in 1876, but of recent years has been independent in politics, supporting the best men, regardless of party affiliations. He has taken a very active and influential part in public affairs, has been a delegate to many county, senatorial, congressional and state conventions, and has been honored with a number of important official positions, having served as township clerk fourteen years, supervisor two years, assessor two years, justice of the peace eight years, a member of the school board, and president and clerk of the district many years. His official duties have always been most faithfully and satisfactorily performed, winning the commendation of all concerned. In 1885 Mr. Klein and N. J. Myer and others established the Eppards Point Fire Insurance Company, and the former was made president, the latter secretary of the same. Our subject is one of the most public spirited and enterprising men of his community and has done much to aid in the development and further the interests of Pike township. Religiously he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church.

CHARLES EDWARD WATSON.

Charles Edward Watson, now deceased, was born in Indiana, in which state he was reared and educated. In his youth he learned the trade of wagonmaker and when a young man he came to Pontiac, first, in 1857, and for a time engaged in his chosen occupation. He later returned to his native state, but in 1862 again came to Pontiac, which continued his home until his death.

On the 19th of April, 1864, Mr. Watson was united in marriage with Miss Cordelia Buck, by whom he had three children. Clara W. is now the wife of Alexander Algeo, a farmer of Rooks Creek township, and they have two children, Anna Louise and Walter Samuel. Jesse N., born January 13, 1870, married April 14, 1897, Miss Mary Lorena Cross, of Peoria, and they reside in Chicago, where he is engaged as a draughtsman. Willim A., born September 4, 1872, is a contractor and builder in Larkin, Kansas. While still residing in Pontiac, he did a good deal of architectural work.

Mr. Watson was called to his reward May 4, 1887. Fraternally he was a member

of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he was a Republican, and for a time held the office of street commissioner of Pontiac.

Mrs. Watson still makes her home in Pontiac, where she is well known and greatly esteemed. She inherited the musical talent of her father and has sung in the choirs of the Methodist Episcopal, Baptist and Presbyterian churches of Pontiac, thus aiding by her voice the worship in song in the various churches.

JOHN H. OLESON.

Among the prosperous and successful farmers of Esmen township, Livingston county, who have made their own way in the world unaided and have succeeded in accumulating a handsome competence, is John H. Oleson, whose home is on section 30. He was born in Norway, in 1850, and when seven years of age was brought to the United States by his father, Ole H. Oleson, who first settled in La Salle county, Illinois, and came to Livingston county five years later, locating in Esmen township, where he is now living a retired life with his youngest son, at the age of seventy-eight years. He, too, was an agriculturist and met with excellent success in his labors.

Since the age of twelve years John H. Oleson has been a resident of Livingston county and is indebted to her public schools for his educational advantages. The old homestead adjoins the farm where he now lives, and he aided in its operation until twenty-four years of age. He was then married, in this county, June 10, 1874, to Miss Isabel Highland, who was also born in Norway, and came to this country at the age of six years with her father, Ole Highland. They settled in Livingston county, where she grew to womanhood. The children born to our subject and his wife are: Elsie, wife of Benjamin Peterson, of Livingston county; Cordelia, wife of Oscar Hetland; Ida, wife of George Thompson; Clara and Obed, both at home.

For two years after his marriage Mr. Oleson engaged in farming upon rented land and then purchased eighty acres of raw prairie land, on which he now resides, and to the improvement and cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies with most gratifying results. As he has prospered he has added to his farm two eighty-acre tracts, and now has a fine place of two hundred and forty acres, which he has tiled, fenced and placed under a high state of cultivation. In addition to this he has an eighty-acre tract, given him by his father, making a total of three hundred and twenty acres. He possesses many of the admirable characteristics of the Norwegian people, being industrious, economical and persevering, and to these may be attributed his wonderful success. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and has served as school director in his district. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran church and are widely and favorably known throughout their section of the county.

CHRISTIAN VERCLER.

For over a quarter of a century this gentleman has been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Livingston county, and now owns and successfully operates a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty

acres on sections 27, 31 and 33, Pike township, He was born July 14, 1852, in the province of Lorraine, France, now a part of Germany, and is a son of Christian Vercler, Sr., one of the most prosperous and progressive farmers in that part of the county. He was educated in both the French and German languages, but has acquired his knowledge of English since coming to America. He sailed from Havre and landed in New York, September 27, 1872, and came direct to Livingston county, Illinois. Two years later he was joined by his father, who bought two hundred and forty acres of land in Pike township, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, as he died the same year.

On his arrival here our subject commenced working by the month at farm labor, and was thus employed for a year and a half. He then assisted his father in the improvement and cultivation of the place, and after the latter's death, he and his brothers, Andrew, Joseph, Jacob and Peter, continued its operation for three years. In 1881 our subject purchased eighty acres of his present farm, and to it he has since added until he now owns an excellent farm of three hundred and twenty acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good and substantial buildings. He has made for himself an honorable record in business and by his well-directed efforts has acquired a handsome competence.

On the 1st of January, 1881, in Pike township, Mr. Vercler was united in marriage with Miss Emma B. Le Duc, a native of that township and a daughter of one of its most prominent old settlers. Louis Le Duc. Five children blessed this union, but Bertha died in childhood. Those living are, William, Alice, Rudolph and Nettie.

By his ballot Mr. Vercler usually supports the men and measures of the Democratic party, but at local elections votes independent of party lines, supporting the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices. He served some years as township clerk, collector of taxes one year, highway commissioner six years, and a member of the school board and district clerk nineteen years. He is a worthy representative of that class of citizens who lead quiet, industrious, honest and useful lives, and constitute the best portion of the community. Religiously he is a member of the Mennonite church. Mrs. Vercler is a member of the German Baptist church.

JOHN W. BRUNER.

John W. Bruner, a prominent and representative business man of Pontiac, residing on East Water street, was born in Greene county, Ohio, July 8, 1837, a son of Peter and Elizabeth (Tytus) Bruner. The father and mother were both born in Loudoun county, Virginia, and about 1835 removed to Ohio, locating near Xenia, where he engaged in milling and mercantile business. Later he carried on the dry-goods business in Butler county and at Germantown, Montgomery county, Ohio, and from that state he moved to Wabash county, Indiana, where he purchased a large tract of land and engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his life, dying there in 1852. His widow continued to reside on the farm until 1855, when she went to live with her brother, F. J. Tytus a prominent merchant and pork packer of Middletown, Butler county, Ohio, and a very wealthy and benevolent man, who

was born February 5, 1806, and died at the age of sixty years. After living with him two years, Mrs. Bruner made her home with her son-in-law, Dr. Samuel Stewart, in Hamilton, Ohio, where she died at the age of about sixty years. The Bruner family is of German descent, the grandfather of our subject having come to this country from Germany with three brothers and settled in the west. Peter Bruner, who was born December 2, 1791, was a son of George Peter Bruner. His wife, Elizabeth, born February 23, 1801, was a daughter of Tunis and Jane Tytus.

To Peter and Elizabeth (Tytus) Bruner were born five children, four of whom reached years of maturity, namely: (1) Francis J., who owned a large sugar plantation in Louisiana, was a Confederate soldier in the Civil war, and died in that state in 1899. Three of his children are still living on the plantation. (2) Jennie E. is the widow of Dr. Samuel Stewart and is now living in Pontiac, Illinois. She has three children: Frank, a finisher in the shoe factory of that place; Lizzie, wife of S. W. Strong, assistant superintendent of the Illinois state reformatory, and John R., who is employed in the shoe factory. (3) William H. married Elizabeth Cook, of Pontiac, and is engaged in the grocery business in that city. (4) John W., our subject, is the youngest of the family.

During his boyhood John W. Bruner attended the common schools of Butler county, Ohio, and completed his education at Dennison University, Granville, that state. He remained at home until 1852, and after leaving college entered the dry goods business at Cincinnati and later at Middletown, in 1861, where he remained until the fall of 1864, when he sold out and came to Pontiac, Illinois. For nine years he carried on farming in Pontiac township, Livingston county, where he owned two hundred and sixty acres, and also three hundred and twenty acres in Eppards Point township, and also raised, bought and sold stock. At the end of that period he removed to the city of Pontiac, where he has since engaged in the real estate and stock business, meeting with marked success. He has also three thousand acres of land near Stuttgart, Arkansas, which is devoted to stock raising at the present time. He is an enterprising and progressive business man, energetic and reliable, and easily wins the confidence and good will of all with whom he comes in contact. Politically, he is a stanch Republican, but has never cared for official honors, while religiously he is a member of the Baptist church, and socially affiliates with the Knights of Pythias, being one of the older members.

On the 15th of August, 1861, Mr. Bruner married Miss Eliza J. Crane, a daughter of Stephen C. and Elizabeth (Simpson) Crane. Her father, a native of New York, moved to Butler county, Ohio, at an early day and there engaged in farming with most gratifying success, becoming the owner of a large amount of both farm and city property. About 1865 he brought his family to Pontiac, where he engaged in the real estate business quite extensively. He was a large stockholder in the first coal shaft sunk at this place, and was also connected with the first woolen mill established here. He seemed to prosper in all his undertakings and accumulated considerable wealth. He died in Pontiac, in 1880, leaving over two thousand acres of improved farming land in Livingston county, besides a large amount of city property and a thou-

sand acres of land in other parts of the west. Mrs. Bruner was born in Butler county, Ohio, January 25, 1843. Of the four children born to our subject and his wife only one is living. Hal C., residing at 208 East Water street, is engaged in the tile business in Pontiac, and is also interested in a manufacturing business in Chicago. He married Carrie S. Sims, of Pontiac, and they have three children, namely: Eva, Leonora and Crane.

JOHN BALMER, Sr.

A brilliant example of a self-made American citizen and a grand examplification of the progress that an ambitious foreigner can make in this country of unbounded opportunities, is shown in the case of John Balmer, one of the most successful and prosperous farmers and stock raisers of Livingston county. He resides on section 26, Pontiac township, within one mile of the city of Pontiac.

Mr. Balmer was born in Switzerland, October 31, 1829, and came to America with his father, Christian Balmer, in 1840, locating first in Hancock county, Ohio, near the present city of Findlay, where the father bought land. With the assistance of his sons he cleared and improved his place, transforming it into a good farm. There he died about 1853.

Our subject attended the public schools of his native land, but his knowledge of English has been acquired through his own efforts since coming to the new world, at the age of eleven years. He aided his father in the arduous task of clearing the home farm, and remained with him until grown. It was in 1852 that he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and the following year he purchased the farm where he now resides, consisting of one hundred and thirty-seven acres, which he bought in partnership with his brother-in-law, but since 1861 he has been sole owner of the place. As an agriculturist he has steadily prospered, and has added to his landed possessions from time to time until he is now the owner of eleven hundred acres of valuable land in this county, besides his investments in Nebraska and Kansas. In connection with general farming he has engaged extensively in the raising and feeding of cattle for market.

In the fall of 1854, Mr. Balmer drove back to Ohio, and was there married to Miss Nancy Adkins, a native of Pickaway county, that state, and a daughter of David Adkins. By this union four children have been born, namely: Melissa is now the wife of Allen Scott, of Joplin, Missouri, and they have two children, John and Pearl; J. P., who assists in the operation of the home farm, married Anna Belle Blair, and they have two children living, Everet and Angie, two having died; Leonard S. is at home, and Anna is the wife of Madison Phipps, a farmer of this county, and they have one child, Jesse R.

In his political views Mr. Balmer is a stanch Republican, but at local elections he endeavors to support the best man, regardless of part affiliations. He has never cared for public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his extensive business interests. Socially he is a member of the Odd Fellows society at Pontiac, and has filled all the chairs, being at present past grand of his lodge. For almost a half-century he has made his home in Livingston county, and has bore his part in its develop-

ment during that period. He has seen the swamps drained, and a large tract of what at first appeared to be waste land transformed into rich and fertile fields. The career of Mr. Balmer seems almost phenomenal, yet his success is by no means the result of fortunate circumstances. It has come to him through energy, labor and perseverance, directed by an evenly balanced mind and honorable business principles. He has always made the most of his opportunities,and his successful life excites the admiration of all.

WILLIAM ARMITAGE.

William Armitage, deceased, was born in Tipperary, Ireland, on the 13th of December, 1826, and when twenty-two years of age came to the United States with his father, Richard Armitage, who settled in Wayne county, New York, where he died at an advanced age. Our subject located in Rochester, New York, where he engaged in the manufacture of brick for a short time, and in 1865 came to Illinois, settling near Odell, Livingston county, where he engaged in farming for a few years and then established himself in the brick and tile business in Odell, in which line he was engaged for over twenty years. He commenced life as a poor boy, but by his industry, perseverance and upright dealing with all with whom he came in business contact, he soon became a thrifty business man, and one who had the respect of all his fellow citizens.

When Mr. Armitage first settled in Odell there was no church or cemetery in the place, and he helped build the first church and was always a large contributor to its support. His business constantly increased under his able management until it became one of the leading industries of that part of the country, furnishing employment to a large number of men and turning out a product all knew as excellent. Later he sold the tile and brick business to Trecker Brothers and moved to Iowa, but after spending two years in that state he returned to Odell, where he made his home until the fall of 1899 and then came to Pontiac to live quietly after the labors of a well-spent life, during which he had prospered. He had surrounded himself by all the comforts of life and was enjoying the rest which comes to the faithful worker, when he was called to that long and peaceful rest, February 25, 1900, after an illness of only a few days, leaving a widow and four children to mourn the departure of a devoted husband and a kind and indulgent father.

Mr. Armitage was married, in Tyre, New York, in 1854, to Miss Ann M. Thorp, a daughter of Munson and Ann Eliza (Armitage) Thorp. Her father was a native of New Hampshire, but at an early age moved to New York and located in Onondaga county, where as a mechanic he spent over sixty years of his life, dying there at the age of eighty-seven. His wife died in Wayne county, the same state, when Mrs. Armitage was only four years of age. Mrs. Armitage has only a brother living, Rev. Wallace W. Thorp, a Presbyterian minister of Poughkeepsie, New York.

To our subject and his wife were born eight children, three of whom died in New York state and one in Odell, this county. The living are as follows: (1) Clara Belle is the wife of Alfred Burns, a farmer of this county, and they have two daughters: Ruth A. and Charlotte. (2) Wesley L., of Odell, married Edith Bockman, and they have three

children, William S., Lucile and Floyd B. (3) Elton C., an attorney of Chicago, married Alice McConnell, and they have one child, Edna. (4) Lillian F. is the wife of S. N. Donahue, who has a large restaurant and bakery in Pontiac.

Mr. Armitage was converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal church at the age of twenty-three years. He was soon elected superintendent of the Sunday school, and was also a class leader. A devoted Christian, an upright citizen and business man, he was always found on the right side of every moral issue, and was strictly temperate and a faithful worker in the temperance movement, and was a constant reader of the best literature, having a well-stocked library. While devoted to his business and the accumulation of property, he found time to gratify his fondness for field sports with rod and gun. In politics he was a Republican, but took no active part in political matters, yet was always interested in all public affairs that tended to advance the wlfare of the community in which he lived. Mrs. Armitage laid the remains of her beloed husband to rest in the cemetery at Odell, where so many years of their happy life had been passed, near the church he had helped to build, and of which he had been such a devoted member and constant attendant. Mrs. Armitage has bought a large, pleasant home on East North street, Pontiac, where she expects to spend her remaining years beloved and respected by all who know her.

JOHN FRANCIS SULLIVAN.

John Francis Sullivan, a well known and prominent druggist, of Chatsworth, was born in Peoria, Illinois, March 10, 1868, a son of John and Ellen Sullivan. The father, who was born in county Cork, Ireland, came to America in 1862, and after spending five years in New York City, became a resident of Peoria, Illinois, where for two years he was employed as section foreman on the Toledo, Peoria & Wabash Railroad. His wife died in 1873, leaving three children: Mary Ellen, who died in Sciota, Illinois, in 1893; Julia, a resident of New York City, and John F., our subject. Shortly before the death of his wife Mr. Sullivan moved to Sciota, McDonough county, Illinois, where he made his home for twenty-five years, being in the employ of the railroad as section foreman nearly all of that time. He owned a farm, which he improved and operated for about two years. He is now a resident of Chatsworth and is still in the employ of the railroad, having been connected with section work for thirty-one years. For his second wife he wedded Mary Lavery, by whom he has four chidren: Cornelius, who is married and lives in Macomb, Illinois; Sarah, Annie and Elizabeth, all at home with their parents.

Our subject received his education in the public schools of Sciota and at the Macomb Normal School. He remained at home with his father until sixteen years of age, and then entered the Chicago College of Pharmacy, where he took a two-years course and was graduated in 1884. He found employment as prescription clerk in different drug stores of Chicago for nine years, and in 1893 came to Chatsworth, where there appeared to be a good opening and purchased the old established business of H. M. Bangs. Since the store came into his possession he has increased the stock to double the amount, and the volume of business is several times what it was. He carries a complete line of

drugs,druggists' sundries, wall paper, paints, oils, etc., and is meeting with well deserved success.

Mr. Sullivan was married, June 28, 1895, to Miss Mary Eva Smith, a native of Chatsworth, and the oldest daughter of James A. Smith. They have one son, Richard Francis, born June 19, 1896. In his political affiliations Mr. Sullivan is a Republican, but has never accepted office, though he has been tendered public position, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his business interests. He is a communicant of the Catholic church, and a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 1829, of Chatsworth.

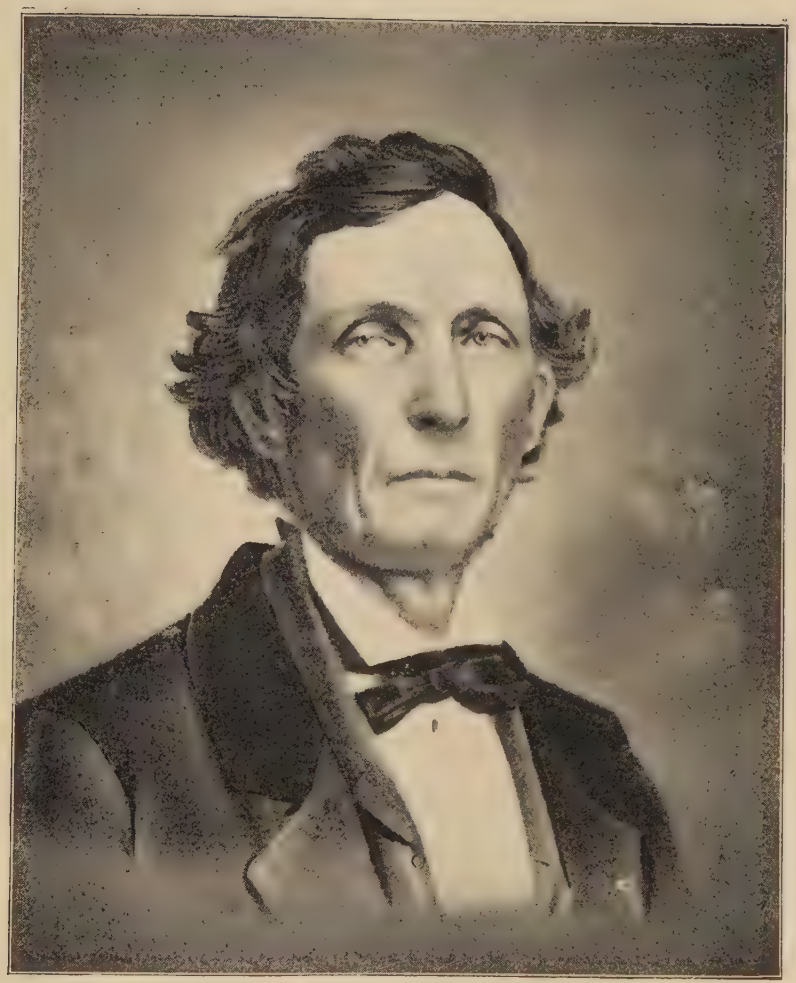
NELSON BUCK.

Nelson Buck, deceased, was a well known citizen of Pontiac from 1850 to 1869. He was born in Chemung county, New York, April 10, 1808, and was a son of Aholiab and Annis (Drake) Buck, natives of Chemung county, New York, but who at a very early day came west and located in Peoria county, Illinois. On his removal to Illinois, on the present site of the city of Peoria there was only a block house and the place was known as Fort Clark. Aholiab Buck took up a tract of land from the general government about eleven miles from the present city, which he improved and on which he resided until his death. His wife, who was a member of the Presbyterian church, survived him for some years, dying in 1860, at the age of nearly eighty-three years. She was a daughter of Benjamin Drake, a native of one of the eastern states.

Nelson Buck grew to manhood in his native county and there received a good literary and musical education, being for some years a teacher of vocal music. He first married Miss Fidelia Withey, of Port Byron, New York, and they made their home in that place until her death. With his father's family he then came west to Peoria county, and later married Miss Annis Knapp, daughter of James and Margaret (Drake) Knapp, also eastern people from near Homer, New York. She was born in 1812.

After his arrival in Peoria county Mr. Buck learned surveying and followed the occupation of a surveyor during the remainder of his residence in that county, doing much of the early survey work, and being a careful and methodical man the correctness of his lines was seldom questioned. He continued to reside in Peoria county until about 1840, when he moved with his family to Bloomington, McLean county, where he continued to follow his chosen occupation. He also established one of the first nurseries in that vicinity, in which line of business he was quite successful. While residing in Bloomington, in 1844, his wife died, leaving five children. Clarissa died, a young lady, in 1854, in Pontiac. Willard P. was a member of the Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war, and faithfully served his country in that terrible struggle for the preservation of the Union. He is now a resident of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Cordelia is now the widow of Charles Watson and resides in Pontiac. Alice and Edwin died young.

Mr. Buck lived in Bloomington and continued his business there until his marriage, in 1850, with Mrs. Maria Fellows, of Pontiac, when he removed to the latter city and took charge of her estate, which consisted of a farm, hotel and many town lots and



NELSON BUCK.

undivided real estate in that place. By his sound business judgment he put the estate into good shape and which later realized a handsome return. He never would permit a bar to be run in connection with the hotel, but run it on strict temperance principles. It burned down July 9, 1856.

Mr. Buck's skill as a surveyor secured him the appointment as government surveyor in 1869, and he was sent to resurvey the line between Kansas and Nebraska. He left Plattsmouth, Nebraska, July 5, 1869, and was last heard from at Fort Kearney, from which place he started for Fort McPherson, but never reached the latter place, being killed by the Indians while *en route*.

In the various places where he made his home, Mr. Buck became somewhat prominent in business, social and musical circles. He was one of the early trustees of the village of Pontiac, before the present thriving place put on city airs. He took an active part in the prosecution of every movement for the improvement of the village, and much credit is due him for its substantial growth just prior to and after the close of the Civil war.

Mr. Buck never lost his interest in musical affairs and while residing in Bloomington he was one of the most prominent musicians of the place. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, connected with its choir and early introduced a violin as a help to the musical exercises of its services, much to the horror of some of the good, staid old members of the church, a few of whom arose and walked out of the church. On his removal to Pontiac he became prominent in musical circles here, as well as leader of the choir in the Methodist Episcopal church. Fraternally he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Few men in Livingston county were better known or held in higher esteem than Nelson Buck, and his untimely death was mourned not alone by his immediate family but the entire community as well.

WILLIAM ROOK.

William Rook, a thrifty and prosperous farmer residing on section 26, Forrest township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born October 20, 1821, in Lincolnshire, England, where his parents, Thomas and Mary (Sutton) Rook, spent their entire lives. The father was a prosperous farmer, was a hard working, industrious man, and highly respected by all who knew him. Both he and his wife held membership in the church of England. He died at the age of seventy-five years, and his wife, who passed away several years previous, died at the age of sixty. Our subject was the oldest of their eight children, four of whom came to this country.

William Rook obtained his early education in the common schools of his birthplace, and remained at home assisting his father on the farm until 1851, when he emigrated to America, landing in Philadelphia July 16. He first went to Delaware, where he worked on a farm two summers, and then removed to New York state, but remained there only a few months, not being pleased with the outlook in that state, and hearing of the cheap lands in Illinois, he decided to locate here, and on the 8th of October, 1853, he arrived in Peoria county, where he rented land and engaged in farming for twelve years. For two years he worked by the month and in 1868 came to

Livingston county, where he purchased eighty acres of raw land on section 27, Forrest township. This he broke, tiled and improved, by the erection of a good residence and large barn, and he still owns the property. It was his home until 1882, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 26, the same township, and erected another set of farm buildings. He has added other improvements from time to time and now has one of the best farms in his locality. He has a pleasant home, which is presided over by his daughter, Mrs. Spray.

On the 5th of May, 1851, Mr. Rook was united in marriage with Miss Mary Bickett, also a native of England and the only child of very highly respected parents. She died September 2, 1875, at the age of forty-seven years, and was laid to rest in Forrest cemetery. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, a woman of many excellent qualities, a devoted wife and loving mother. Hers was a well-spent life and Mr. Rook gives her credit for a large share of his success. She was industrious and ambitious and was ever a cheerful helpmeet.

To Mr. and Mrs. Rook were born five children, namely: (1) Marry, born in Delaware, in August, 1852, is now the wife of George Swartz, a prosperous farmer of Nebraska, and they have five children, Emma, William, Harry, Clara and Ollie, all born in Livingston county, Illinois, except Ollie, who was born in Nebraska. (2) J. William, born in Peoria county, Illinois, in March, 1854, wedded Mary Gouldsbury, and lived on the original homestead of the family on section 27, Forrest township, but is now working by the month on a farm in McDonough county, this state. His wife is now deceased, leaving one son, Frederick, who was born in Forrest township, and is now sixteen years of age. He is working on his uncle's farm on section 27, that township. (3) Eliza, born in Peoria county, March 6, 1856, was educated in the common schools of Livingston county, and was married, February 4, 1875, to Ephraim R. Spray, who was born in Fountain county, Indiana, February 18, 1850, a son of J. T. and Mary Spray, and died October 18, 1881. He was conscious up to the time of his death and expressed a willingness to die. He was aware of the approach of the end, saying, "Oh, mother, the great transaction is done, it is all well with me." His remains were interred in Forrest cemetery. He was a devoted husband and father, and left a wife and three children to mourn his loss. Of the children Mary, born in Livingston county April 12, 1876, was married, January 12, 1898, to Robert McKinley, who is engaged in farming on a quarter-section of land in Charlotte township, Livingston county, and they have one child, Clarence, born December 26, 1899. John, born June 3, 1878, and Charles, born August 18, 1880, were educated in the district schools of Forrest township, and are now working upon our subject's farm. (4) Thomas, born in Peoria county in October, 1858, married Katie Faragher, of Forrest township, and lives on his father's farm of eighty acres on section 27, although he owns a farm of his own. (5) Sarah, born in Peoria county, died at the age of three years and was buried there.

Since casting his first presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas Mr. Rook has affiliated with the Democratic party, and as a public-spirited citizen he takes an active interest in all that tends to the improvement and advancement of the community in which

he lives. He has always been a hard working and persevering man, whose spirit was not cast down by the hardships of his early pioneer life, and his determination to succeed soon enabled him to accumulate property, so that he is to-day one of the prosperous as well as one of the highly respected citizens of the township. He has many friends and no enemies, and now, at a ripe old age, is enjoying the fruits of his early industry.

JACOB E. BROWN.

Jacob E. Brown, who is engaged in the general banking business, together with the insurance and loan business, has been a resident of Livingston county since 1857, during which time he has been an important factor in its material growth and prosperity. He was born near Watertown, Jefferson county, New York, September 29, 1838, and is the son of Thomas Y. and Mary A. (Everett) Brown, both of whom were natives of New York, born in the same locality, near Brownsville.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Henry county, was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, near the city of Philadelphia, but in an early day moved to Jefferson county, New York, where he cleared the land of timber and made a farm of eight hundred acres. The city of Brownsville was named in his honor. There he lived and died. During the boyhood of our subject there were in the neighborhood of Brownsville about eight hundred people, over three-fifths of whom bore the name of Brown, and all related.

Thomas Yarley Brown, the father of our subject, was engaged in farming in his native state, a portion of the time in partnership with his father. For some years he was a brigade commander in the New York militia, serving with credit to himself and the state. In 1855 he came west and purchased a large tract of land in what is now Germanville township, Livingston county, and in 1856 he came out with the intention of making it his permanent abode. In 1857 his wife and family joined him and they took up their residence in a story and a half frame cottage which he had erected for the purpose. It was 16x24 feet and served as the home for the family a few years, when it was added to, making a larger residence. On that farm he continued to reside until 1870, when he moved into the village of Chatsworth, where he lived a quiet, retired life until his death, February 4, 1899. His wife is yet living and makes her home with our subject. They were the parents of three children, of whom our subject is the oldest. Sarah A. is the wife of J. C. Shear, of Onarga, Illinois, where he is living a retired life. Mary Frances is the wife of Joel R. Strawn, who for many years was engaged in farming in Forrest township, but is now living retired in the village of Forrest. Mrs. Mary A. Brown is now eighty-three years of age and is a well preserved woman. She was a member of the Episcopal church. Her husband was past eighty-eight years old at the time of his death, his father, Henry Brown, also dying at the same age. In politics he was originally a Whig, but later a Republican. In the early days he served as assessor for some years, and was also a member of the school board for many years, and served for a time as a member of the board of trustees of the village of Chatsworth. He was a member of the board in Chatsworth when the present school house was erected.

Jacob E. Brown, our subject, was named for General Brown, who was commander-in-chief of the United States army for a time, a man of more than ordinary ability. His boyhood and youth were spent in his native county and state, and in the public schools of Brownsville he took his primary course, after which he entered Brownsville Academy, and after pursuing the regular course he graduated therefrom. After coming west he took a commercial course at Eastman's Business College, Chicago.

Coming west with the family Mr. Brown remained with his parents, assisting in the management of the farm until in August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company M, Ninth Illinois Cavalry, and was mustered into the service at Springfield, Illinois. The regiment was sent to Chicago, and in November, 1862, was sent south, having its first brush with the enemy at Pilot Knob, Missouri. From that time until the close of the war it was in active service. Crossing the Mississippi river at Helena, Arkansas, it took part in many shirmishes from Cairo to Vicksburg, and also around Little Rock, Arkansas, and up the White river, the nature of the service partaking of a guerrilla warfare. This was the case until the spring of 1864. It was then with the main army through Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, and all through that section until the close of the war. During its term of service it enlisted over eight thousand men, but only about six hundred returned home at the close of the war. It was in some very severe engagements. At La Grange, Arkansas, the division with which it was connected lost over two thousand men in an hour and a half.

Mr. Brown entered the service as a private, but in a short time was appointed corporal and later sergeant in his company. On the 19th of November, 1864, with forty-two other men, he was taken prisoner at Shoal Creek, Tennessee, while reconnoitering in front of Hood's army, which was making its advance on Nashville, Tennessee. He was held a prisoner until March, 1865, when he was paroled and sent to the parole camp at Vicksburg. He was imprisoned at Cahaba, Alabama, where ten thousand Union prisoners were held. While yet a prisoner he was commissioned second lieutenant and was later assigned to the staff of General Hatch. He was honorably discharged from the service in May, 1865, with the rank of second lieutenant.

After receiving his discharge Lieutenant Brown returned home and shortly afterward took the course in Eastman's Business College, as already stated. Completing the course he returned to the farm and continued to be actively engaged in farm labor until 1875, having the management of the home farm of over twelve hundred acres. The hard work necessary to the management of such an estate told upon his health, so much so that he was compelled to abandon it, and in January, 1875, he moved to the village of Chatsworth and for a time engaged in no active business.

On the 16th of January, 1868, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth B. Pope, a native of Kentucky and fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children. Her father, Thomas W. Pope, moved from Kentucky to Illinois in 1856, locating in a grove in Ford county, now known as Pope's grove, and which was named for him. There he engaged in farming for many years and then moved to Piper City, Ford county, Illinois, where he lived retired and where his death occurred.

To Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born three children. R. Finley, who is engaged with his father in the banking business, and who is vice-president of the bank, was a member of Troop K, First Illinois Cavalry, during the Spanish-American war. With his regiment he was sent to Chickamauga Park, where he was taken ill and returned home. Later he was sent to Fort Sheridan, where he was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service. He is a graduate of Peeksville, New York, Military Academy, and also of the New York Military Academy at Cornwall, New York. Elizabeth McKee, at home, is a graduate of a female seminary near Peekskill, New York. Madge Everett is attending Oxford College at Oxford, Ohio.

On his restoration to health, about one year after his removal to Chatsworth, Mr. Brown went into the bank of C. A. Wilson & Company as cashier, and held that position until 1885, when he purchased the business, and under the firm name of J. E. Brown & Company it was continued until January, 1900, when it was re-organized as the Bank of Chatsworth, with Mr. Brown as president, R. Finley Brown, vice-president, and Ed M. Reesing, cashier. The bank is doing a very satisfactory business and has the confidence of the entire community. In addition to his regular banking business Mr. Brown is agent of some of the leading fire insurance companies of the United States, in which he has placed many policies. He is also interested in farm lands in Illinois, Indiana and North Dakota, and in the latter state has two thousand, five hundred and sixty acres in the counties of Steele and Cass. He was formerly largely interested in the Ogallala Land & Cattle Company, importers of Hereford cattle, but of late years he has confined himself to his private business.

Mr. Brown is a worker in the Presbyterian church of Chatsworth, in which for many years he has been one of the trustees. Fraternally he is a member of Chatsworth Lodge, No. 538, A. F. & A. M.; Fairbury Chapter, No. 99, R. A. M., and St. Paul's Commandery, No. 34, K. T., of Fairbury. He is also a member of E. G. Trask Post, No. 388, G. A. R., and was its first commander, and has since almost continuously served in that office. In politics he is a Republican and cast his first presidential vote for the great Abraham Lincoln. He has served as a member of the village board of trustees and has been president of the same. He also served on the school board while residing on the farm. He has, however, never been a seeker after office.

As a citizn Mr. Brown has always been enterprising, ready to do his duty when that duty is presented to him. He shipped the first car-load of corn from Chatsworth, going to Gilman to order the car. At that time corn was shelled with a hand sheller, there being no others in use. In the forty-three years in which he has been a citizen of Livingston county rapid changes have been made, the county now ranking with the best in the entire state, with improvements second to none. In all that has been done he has borne well his part.

JOSEPH FARNEY.

Joseph Farney, who is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 28, Forrest township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Lewis county, New York, March 16, 1842, a son of John and

Annie (Zehr) Farney. The father, a native of Germany, came to the United States at the age of sixteen years and located in Lewis county, New York, becoming one of its well-to-do and prosperous farmers. He died there at about the age of sixty-three years. His wife is still living near the old homestead at the age of eighty years. Our subject is the oldest of their nine children, six of whom survive.

Joseph Farney remained at home with his parents, assisting in the work of the farm until 1868, when he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased a farm of eighty acres in Forrest township, which he operated for ten years. He then bought one hundred and forty acres of his present farm, which at that time was only partially improved, and to its further development and cultivation he has since devoted his energies with most gratifying success. He has extended its boundaries until he now has two hundred and forty acres, upon which he has built a substantial residence, a commodious barn and other outbuildings, and now has one of the best improved farms in the locality. His success is well deserved, as he is an industrious, enterprising man—one who has helped to make the county what it is to-day, one of the richest farming districts in the state. Besides the valuable farm already mentioned he now owns forty acres on section 21 and eighty acres on section 16, Forrest township. For several years he has held the office of school trustee and has done much to improve the schools of district No. 8.

On the 12th of April, 1871, Mr. Farney married Miss Lena Yoder, one of a family of six children, whose parents were Joseph and Annie (Kempf) Yoder. The father was born in Alsace, France, in 1822, and when a boy came to America, residing in the New England states until he reached manhood. Subsequently he made his home in New York state for a number of years, and in the spring of 1867 came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased a farm in Forrest township, which he improved and cultivated for some time, but the last three years of his life were spent in retirement from active labor in Fairbury. He became quite a prominent and prosperous man of his community. He died May 23, 1888, leaving a widow, who is still living, three sons, three daughters and twenty-seven grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Farney are the parents of seventeen children, all living with the exception of Lydia, who died at the age of eight weeks. John, the eldest, now twenty-seven years of age, is a farmer in the employ of Mr. Watson, of Forrest township; Samuel works on his father's farm; Edward operates eighty acres belonging to his father; Joseph is engaged in farming near the homestead; Andrew is also an agriculturist; Rachel, now residing with her father, is the widow of Andrew Weisser, a carpenter, who died May 24, 1899, leaving one child, Aldine, born March 3, 1899; Mina is the wife of Conrad Wenger, a farmer of Fairbury, and they have one child, Roy; Annie, Emma and Elmer, twins, Fred, Malinda, Orville, Walter, Jess and Arthur are all at home. All were born in Livingston county, educated in the local schools and live on the home farm or near it.

ABRAM LOWER.

Abram Lower, a prominent and influential citizen of Broughton township, residing on section 10, has been a resident of Liv-

ingston county since the spring of 1860, and has been actively identified with its agricultural and political interests. He was born in Blair county, Pennsylvania, October 10, 1835, a son of David and Susan (Rhodes) Lower. Though in early life the father learned the trades of weaver, carpenter and joiner, he followed farming principally. On coming to Illinois in 1861 he settled in Livingston county, but two years later moved to Carroll county, and died at his home in Lanark, in 1882, at the age of eighty years. His wife survived him for some time, dying in December, 1898, at the age of eighty-eight years. To them were born ten children, of whom one died in infancy. The others were Levi, a veteran of the civil war, who now lives in Kansas and whose sons are prominent in banking circles; Samuel, a resident of Dwight, Illinois; Abram, our subject; Catherine, wife of Samuel McCoy, of Lanark; Rebecca, who died in 1864; Martin, who died from disease contracted in the army during the civil war; Anna, wife of John Chestnut, of Adair, Iowa; Leah, wife of George Weed, of Lanark; and Eli L., who was also one of the boys in blue during the civil war and is now a resident of Lanark.

Abram Lower received his education in the common schools of his native state and was reared upon his father's farm. In 1858 he came to Illinois and settled on the present site of Lanark, the locality at that time being unbroken prairie. In 1860 he came to Livingston county, where his father had purchased land, and he undertook the arduous task of opening up the farm, on which not a furrow had been turned nor an improvement made. For some time he operated a half-section of land and still owns one hundred and sixty acres in the home place on section 10, Broughton township, and eighty acres on section 14, all of which has been under cultivation for many years and is well improved. In connection with general farming he carries on stock raising and has made a decided success of his life work.

October 16, 1860, Mr. Lower married Miss Catherine Miller, a daughter of George and Margaret (Davis) Miller, natives of Germany and Pennsylvania, respectively. The Miller family made their home in Pennsylvania until 1854, when they came to Illinois and settled in Carroll county, where the parents spent the remainder of their lives, the father dying in June, 1877, the mother in December, 1891. They had thirteen children, of whom two died in infancy. The others are still living, namely: Mary A., wife of C. E. Cross, a veteran of the civil war and a railroad engineer residing in Marion, Iowa; Catherine, wife of our subject, who was born August 7, 1842; Samuel E., a resident of Chenoa, Illinois; Emma R., wife of Philip Galwicks, of Butler county, Nebraska; William A., a hotelman of Streator; John L., of Beatrice, Nebraska; Martin L., twin brother of John L. and a resident of Mt. Carroll; Upton, a magnetic healer; Gertrude, wife of Edward Sullivan, of Aurora; A. L., a physician of Dixon; and Margaret, a resident of Rockford. The three youngest were born in Illinois, the others in Pennsylvania.

Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lower three died in infancy. The others were as follows: (1) Maggie is the wife of Walter Morrison, a railroad man of Omaha, Nebraska, and they have four children: Clarence, Lillie, Eethel and Clara. (2) Augusta is the wife of P. D. Glover,

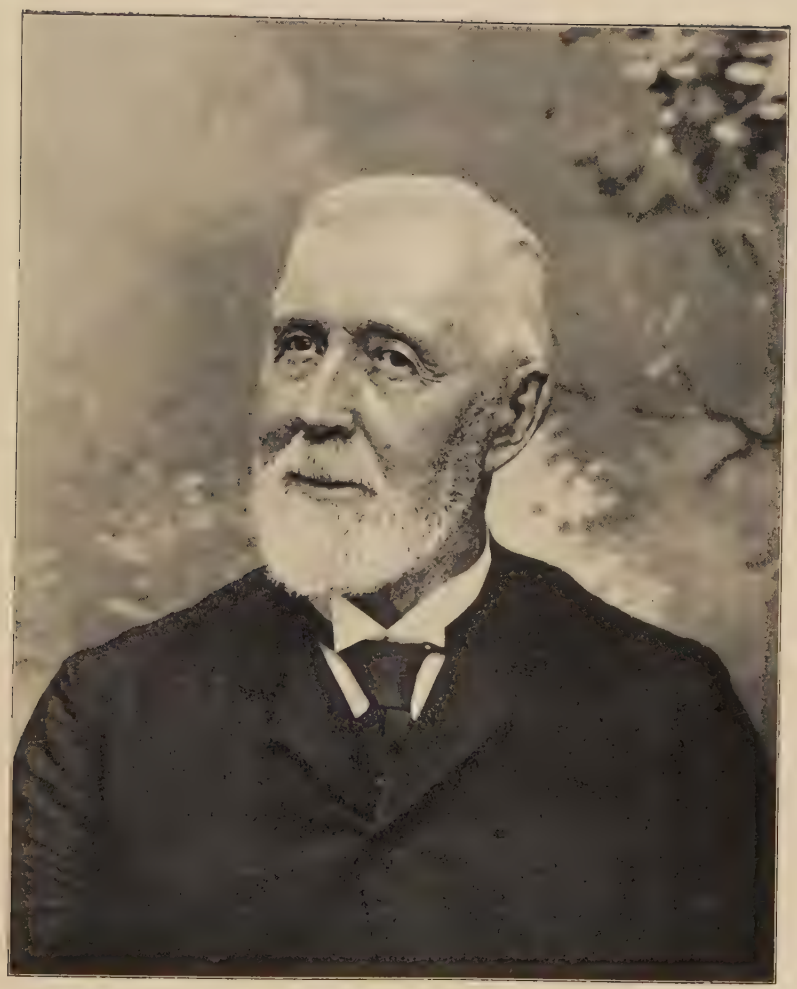
a farmer of Custer county, Nebraska, and they have seven children: Earl, Fay, Guy, Ruth, Lloyd, Glenn and Rex. (3) Albert, who lives on his father's farm, is extensively engaged in general farming on a half-section of land and also carries on stock raising. He married Mary E. Lorigan, and has five children: Abram, Salisbury, Bernice, Albert and Madeline. (4) Le Roy, a prosperous farmer and stock raiser, operating a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Broughton township, married Hannah E. Morris and has two children, Arthur and an infant. (5) Frank D., also a farmer and stock raiser of Broughton township, married Mary E. Weller and has one daughter, Eulalia. (6) Marriette is the wife of Cyrus Hiddleson, of Broughton township, and they have two children, Vera and George. (7) Lillian is a dressmaker residing at home. (8) Grace is the wife of Benjamin Morris, of Round Grove township, and they have one daughter, Lila. (9) Gertrude is at home.

In politics Mr. Lower is a stanch Democrat, and his fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have often called him to office. He has served as supervisor five years, road commissioner seventeen years, and after assisting in organizing the school district in 1860 was made one of the first directors, which office he held for fifteen years. He assisted in laying out all of the roads of Broughton township, and did not resign his position as commissioner until the last mile had been opened up. He is one of the best known men of his community, and that he has the entire confidence and respect of his fellow citizens is manifest by his being called upon to act as guardian for several children and as administrator of several estates, which were settled up most satisfactorily. Since 1894 he has lived a retired life upon his farm, surrounded by all the comforts which earnest toil in former years have brought him.

ROBERT RUMBOLD.

Robert Rumbold, who is engaged in the insurance business in Chatsworth, dates his residence in Livingston county from 1856, almost half a century. He was born in Hampshire, England, July 23, 1831, and is a son of Joseph and Martha (Sherman) Rumbold, both of whom were also natives of England, the latter dying there about 1845. They were the parents of seven children, three of whom died in infancy, while the family were yet residing in England, and three died after coming to the United States, so that our subject is the sole living representative of the family. Joseph Rumbold became a veterinary surgeon in England, and followed that profession, in connection with farming, after coming to this country. Shortly after the death of his wife Joseph Rumbold, Sr., came with his family to the United States, and first located at Lockport, Will county, Illinois, but shortly afterward moved to Livingston county and commenced farming near Fairbury, an occupation in which he successfully continued until his death, in 1868.

Robert Rumbold, the subject of this sketch, received his education in the boarding schools of his native country, and was twenty-one years old when he accompanied his father to the United States. On his arrival he engaged in farming, in connection with his father, and they were extensively



ROBERT RUMBOLD.

engaged in farming on rented land in Kendall county, until 1856, when they came to Livingston county. Our subject here purchased an interest in a quarter section of land near Fairbury and was successfully engaged in farming there until 1869, when he disposed of his interest in that farm and purchased eighty acres of his present farm in Chatsworth township, which was then unimproved prairie land. This he began to improve and soon had it all under cultivation, and on that farm he has since continued to reside. For some years he continued to superintend the work of the farm, but has now given its management into the hands of his son, who is a thorough and practical farmer.

In 1859, after he had made a start in this new country, Mr. Rumbold visited his native land, and while there was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Osmond, who was born, in 1830, in Hampshire, England. With his bride, he returned to his new home, since when he has been identified with the county in many ways. Seven children came to bless their union, two of whom died in infancy. Of the five living children, Edward H. resides in West Pullman, where he is engaged in the real estate and insurance business, in which he is making a success. He is married and has one daughter, Esther. Alice M. is the wife of Samuel M. Wilson, and they have one daughter, Edna. Their home is also in West Pullman, where he is assisting his brother-in-law in the real estate and insurance business. Ann Elizabeth is cashier for her brother in his office at West Pullman. Cecil Robert is assisting his father in the insurance business in Chatsworth. Joseph B., who, after leaving school, engaged in teaching for one year, is now managing the farm of his father, and is doing a successful business.

Mr. Rumbold commenced the insurance business in 1869 and is now one of the oldest in point of service in this line of business of any in Livingston county. He has the agency of fourteen of the best fire and life insurance companies in the country, including the Aetna, of Hartford, Connecticut; Home, of New York; Continental, of New York; Insurance Company of North America, of Philadelphia; Underwriters, of Philadelphia; American, of Philadelphia, and the Washington Life Insurance Company. For the last twenty-five years, Mr. Rumbold has given his entire time to the insurance business and has built up an excellent trade, having many patrons, not only in Livingston, but in adjoining counties. He has made a success of the business and deserves all that he has made.

Mr. Rumbold came to this country at a time when the slavery question was the all-absorbing topic of interest and he became a voter just about the time of the organization of the Republican party. With that party he became identified and has since been an earnest advocate of its principles. While he has always manifested a commendable interest in the questions of the day, he has never been a politician as the term is generally understood. By his friends, he has been elected and served as assessor of his township, collector, justice of the peace, and is now serving as trustee of schools. He has been a delegate to many county conventions, and also to the congressional convention of his party. He is a man ever ready to take his share of responsibility and to advocate any good cause beneficial to the community in which he lives.

Fraternally, Mr. Rumbold is a Mason, first becoming identified with the order while living in Grundy county. He is now a member of Chatsworth Lodge, No. 539, A. F. & A. M.; of Fairbury Chapter, No. 99, R. A. M., and of Fairbury Commandery, No. 34, K. T. He is the only living charter member of the blue lodge in Fairbury. In the principles of the order he has ever had an abiding faith, believing them to be beneficial to mankind. On the occasion of Mr. Rumbold's' re-election for the twenty-first time as treasurer of the Chatsworth Lodge, he was presented with a beautiful gold headed cane bearing the inscription:

"Presented December 16, 1898, to Robert Rumbold at his twenty-first election as treasurer of Chatsworth Lodge, No. 539, A. F. & A. M."

It is needless to say Mr. Rumbold values the gift very highly, not for its intrinsic value, but from the associations surrounding the gift. Mr. Rumbold has passed through all the chairs of the lodge and is now holding the office of worshipful master. Reared in the Episcopalian faith, he has always adhered to the teachings of that denomination. As a citizen, no man in Livingston county is held in higher esteem. Of a social nature, it is easy for him to make and retain friends.

MICHAEL REISING.

Michael Reising, engaged in the general mercantile business, Chatsworth, Illinois, is a native of Hanover, Bremen, Germany, and was born July 17, 1838. He is a son of George A. and Margaret (Reising) Reising, who, although of the same name, were not related. Both were natives of Bavaria, Germany, where they were married. By occupation George A. Reising was a farmer in his native land, a vocation which he followed throughout life. With a view of bettering his condition he left the old world, with his family, when our subject was but a few weeks old, coming to the United States and direct to Woodford county, Illinois. On his arrival in the latter county he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, only one acre of which had been plowed. Clearing the land of its timber he commenced the improvement of the farm and later added to its area by the purchase of eighty acres from the government and forty acres from another man. With the exception of two years spent in Peoria, Illinois, he spent the remainder of his life on that farm, dying when sixty-one years old. His wife died when she was forty-seven years old. They were the parents of six children that grew to maturity and two that died in early childhood. Those who grew to man and womanhood were Peter, Adam P., Mary, Michael, Elizabeth and Annie. All are yet living save Elizabeth.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood on his father's farm in Woodford county, Illinois, and as the opportunity was afforded him attended the common subscription school, having to walk a distance of two miles to the school house. He could only attend a few weeks in the winter, as his services were needed on the farm at other times. He remained at home until he attained his majority, when he rented land and engaged in farming for himself. After the death of his father he went to Tazewell county, where he rented a farm and engaged in its cultivation for two years. From

Tazewell he returned to Woodford county and bought eighty acres of land near El Paso, which he farmed for about three years. Selling this place he moved to Claremont county, Ohio, where he remained for four years. He then returned to Woodford county, Illinois, and engaged in farming for two years. He next came to Chatsworth, Illinois, and purchased the general store of Mrs. Barbara Scherer, and here he has since continued to reside. In 1883 Mr. Reising met with a serious misfortune that left him thirty-five hundred dollars worse than penniless, but with that sturdy determination that characterizes the German race he would not own that he was beaten, but pushed forward in the face of obstacles that would have dismayed almost any other man, and by dint of hard work and perseverance succeeded in again establishing himself in business. After a few years, however, seeing that he was paying out his profits for rent, he assumed fresh indebtedness and built the fine store building that he now owns. Few men could have accomplished what Mr. Reising has, being forced as he was to start over the battle of life at almost fifty years of age. For the past twenty years Mrs. Reising has been engaged in the millinery business in connection. She has a good trade and gives satisfaction to her patrons.

On the 24th of January, 1860, Mr. Reising was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Pfarr, a native of Claremont county, Ohio, and daughter of George Pfarr, a native of Germany, who came to this country when a young man, locating in Claremont county, and later moving to Woodford county, Illinois. Mrs. Reising is one of a family of six children, the others being Barbara, Mary, Peter, Kate and John. Of these Barbara and Peter are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Reising have no children of their own, but have an adopted son, Joseph, who bears their name.

Mr. and Mrs. Reising are members of the Catholic church, and in politics he is a Democrat, having voted the party ticket since attaining his majority. He has served several terms as a member of the village board of trustees of Chatsworth, but has no inclination for office holding. He prefers to give his time and attention to his business and work for the interests of the people in selling them goods at living prices. He aims at all times to carry as complete a stock of goods as the wants of the community will warrant. His residence of twenty-seven years in Chatsworth has made him many friends.

REV. SAMUEL ELBRIDGE VANCE.

Rev. Samuel Elbridge Vance, who is now living a retired life in Pontiac, enjoying a well-earned rest, was for many years actively engaged in religious work as a Presbyterian minister. He was born in Paris, Edgar county, Illinois, July 29, 1835, a son of Andrew Milton and Esther (Shelledy) Vance, who were married in that city, of which city his paternal grandfather, Samuel Vance, was a prominent pioneer. He was a native of Abingdon, Virginia, and on leaving that state removed to east Tennessee, but as early as 1822 he came to Illinois and took up his residence in Paris, erecting the second house in that place. There he engaged in farming throughout the remainder of his life, dying about 1857, at the age of eighty-five years. He was an elder in the Presbyterian church of Paris for a great many years, and donated all the brick for the first

church of that denomination erected there. He was a life-long Democrat, and in the south had been a slave owner, but freed all his slaves on coming to this state. The father of our subject was born in Virginia, in 1809. In 1826 he came to Illinois and followed merchandising in Paris throughout his active business life. He died there in 1874, at the age of sixty-four years. He held some minor offices, but never sought political honors, and in politics was a Democrat until the organization of the Republican party, when he joined its ranks, becoming a stanch supporter of its principles. He, too, was an elder in the Presbyterian church for many years, and was a man honored and respected by all who knew him. The mother of our subject died when he was only twelve years old, leaving three children, of whom he was the oldest. Julia married J. C. Collom, a merchant of Paris, and died leaving a family. James A., a resident of Pierce City, Missouri, was a soldier of the civil war and is an attorney by profession. He is married and has a family.

Our subject remained at home until twenty years of age, and was prepared for college at Edgar Academy, in Paris. Later he spent one year in Hanover College, Indiana, and then entered Jefferson College (now known as Washington and Jefferson College), Pennsylvania, where he pursued a literary course and was graduated in 1860. He was next a student at the Northwestern Theological Seminary, Chicago, and was graduated at that institution in the spring of 1863. He was licensed and ordained by the Presbytery of Palestine, now known as the Presbytery of Mattoon, and his first charge was John Knox church, in Knox county, Illinois. At the same time he also preached in the village of Oneida, the same county, remaining there six years. Subsequently he was at Lexington, Illinois, for five and a half years, and from there went to Wisconsin, where he spent sixteen years in the work of the ministry. His health failing him, he went to Kansas, where he remained some years, and in 1895 came to Pontiac, Illinois, where she has since lead a retired life, having never recovered his usual health.

On the 22d of December, 1863, at Morris, Grundy county, Illinois, Mr. Vance was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Frame, a daughter of Rev. Reuben and Margaret Stewart (Selby) Frame, and granddaughter of Captain Selby, who followed the sea throughout life. For many years her father was in charge of the Presbyterian church in Morris, but died in Chicago, in 1891, at the age of eighty-seven years. His widow is still living in that city at the advanced age of ninety-two years, making her home with a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Vance have a family of five children, three sons and two daughters. (1) Selby Frame, born in Knox county, November 17, 1864, was ordained a Presbyterian minister and preached for some years, but is now professor of Greek at Wooster University, Ohio. He is married and has one child. (2) Harriet Shelledey, a native of Knox county, is a graduate of the classical department of Lake Forest University, and once held a position in a young ladies' seminary, but for the past five years has been one of Pontiac's best photographers, having won special praise for her artistic work, especially of babies and children. She was the first to introduce the platinum finish in the city. (3) Edward Elbridge, a native of Illinois, is a Presbyterian minister of Cooksville, McLean coun-

ty, Illinois, and is now traveling in the west on account of ill health. (4) James Milton, born in Lexington, Illinois, is also a graduate of Lake Forest Universivty, and for three years taught Latin and Greek in the township high school of Pontiac, but is now attending the Theological Seminary at Princeton, New Jersey, studying for the ministry. (5) Catherine Stewart, born in ortage county, Wisconsin, is now fourteen years of age and is attending the high school of Pontiac.

GEORGE FRY.

George Fry, the owner of a good farm of eighty acres on section 29, Forrest township, Livingston county, is a native of England, born in Devonshire, in 1834, and is a son of John Fry. He lost his mother when quite young, but his father, who was also a farmer by occupation, lived to the advanced age of ninety-two years, and was still very active at the time of his death, having a short time before walked a distance of nine miles and sheared forty sheep. Our subject is the youngest of a family of ten children, and he and his brother, Richard, were the only ones to come to this country.

George Fry remained in his native land until seventeen years of age, when he crossed the ocean and settled in Lisbon, Kendall county, Illinois, where he worked on a farmand then oprated rented land for seevral years. In 1866 he became a resident of Livingston county, and after farming for six years in Belle Prairie township, he came to Forrest township and bought the eighty-acre farm which has been his home ever since. He started out in life as a poor boy, but by industry and good management has secured a comfortable competence.

Mr. Frve married Mrs. Susan Evans, also a native of England, who died nine months later, leaving one child, by her former marriage—William Evans—now a resident of Kansas. Mr. Fry was again married at the end of four years, his second union being with Mrs. Susan Gas, of Pennsylvaia, whose first husband was killed in the civil war. She is now seventy-seven year of age and although nearly blind and quite deaf, she bears up patiently under her afflictions. She and her husband have many warm friends and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

HNRY RINGLER.

Henry Ringler, a prominent business man of Strawn, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in the province of Hersfeld, Germany, June 16, 1844, a son of Peter and Gertrude (More) Ringler, who were of pure German ancestry. The mother died in that country at the age of thirty-eight years. She was the third wife of Peter Ringler and the mother of eight sons: Peter; George; one who died in infancy unnamed; Henry and John, twins; William; Fritz and August. With the exception of the one who died in infancy, all came to this country and five are still living. It being the custom from time immemorial for the Kurfustenthum Hessen to give the father of seven successive sons forty-two dollars, Mr. Ringler received that amount from Emperor William, the grandfather of the present ruler of Germany. Of this family Fritz and August are residents of New York City, and com-

posed the firm of F. A. Ringler & Company, who have the largest electrotype foundry in the world, employing over one hundred and fifty hands, and are prominent business men of that city. Two years ago they celebrated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of their business, and at the World's Fair, in 1893, received the first prize for an engraving of Columbus discovering America. They came to the United States in 1867. George Ringler, another brother of our subject, emigrated to America in 1858, and also located in New York City, where he was foreman of a brewery for some years, and then, in partnership with another gentleman, engaged in that business on his own account. The business established by him is still carried on under the firm name of George Ringler & Company, its present officers being his son, William G. Ringler, president; George J. Jetter, vice-president; J. Edward Jetter, secretary and manager, and Henry Hachemeister, treasurer—one of the largest in New York City—and have a large and elegant office at the corner of Ninety-second and Third avenue, while their brewery is fitted up with the latest improved machinery and was one of the first to put in operation an ice plant. George Ringler died about ten years ago, leaving an estate valued at over one million dollars. He had two children: William G., mentioned above, and Rose, wife of George J. Jetter.

In 1869 Peter Ringler, the father of our subject, came to the United States, and after residing for a time in New York state, came to Livingston county, Illinois, locating in Belle Prairie township, where he engaged in farming, and also contracting and building for a time. He had previously done extensive business as a contractor and builder of roads and railroads and accumulated a large fortune, which he lost through the schemes of a railroad company. He died in Belle Prairie township, in 1875, at the age of seventy-two years, and was laid to rest in the cemetery at Fairbury. He was four times married, his last wife being Catherine Shirteruff, by whom he had four children: Peter, now a prosperous farmer of Iowa; Catherine, wife of Conrad Heppe, a farmer of Chatsworth, Illinois; Anton, a farmer of Cullom, and Lizzie, wife of A. M. Marks, of New York City.

Henry Ringler was educated in the schools of his native land, and later spent about five years in traveling. He worked for a year and a half at the blacksmith's trade in Germany, and after coming to this country followed the same occupation for several years. He crossed the broad Atlantic at the age of eighteen years, and in 1866 became a resident of Livingston county, Illinois, locating first in Indian Grove township, where he leased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres for six years Later he rented a farm in Forrest township for four years, and at the end of that time came to Strawn, where he purchased property, embarking in the grocery business at that place in 1877, and carrying it on seven years. He then purchased a half-section of land on section 3, Fayette township, which he operated eleven years, and then sold, returning to Strawn to resume the grocery business, which he has since successfully carried on. He is one of the prosperous men of his community, whose success in life is due to his own unaided efforts, good management and sound judgment.

On the 1st of March, 1868, in Belle Prairie township, Mr. Ringler was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Fox, also

a native of Germany, and a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Fry) Fox, who emigrated to America about 1866, and lived in Chicago until 1870. Their last years were spent with our subject in Livingston county, where the mother died in 1872, the father in 1878, leaving a large family of children. To Mr. and Mrs. Ringler were born eight children, all of whom are still living, namely: (1) Fritz, who is now foreman of his uncle's electrotype foundry, in New York, and commanding a high salary, married Lizzie Shutt, and had one child that died in infancy. (2) Lizzie is the wife of Thomas Dolan, secretary of the Western Union Newspaper Company, of Denver, Colorado, and they have two children, Virgil and Gertrude. (3) August, a successful contractor and builder of Strawn, married Rosa Kuntz, and they have four children, Raymond, Dora, Ellen and August. (4) Mary is the wife of D. F. Keller, a printer, of Chicago, and they have one child, Veronica. (5) Henry married Hermine Bousand and is engaged in the saloon business in Pontiac. (6) George is engaged in the brewery business in Brookyln, New York. (7) Katie it at home, and (8) William, also at home, is clerking in his father's store. All of the children were born in Livingston county, and educated in the township schools.

As one of the leading business men and influential citizens of Strawn, Mr. Ringler has been called upon to fill several important official positions, the duties of which he has always faithfully and satisfactorily performed. He was supervisor of Fayette township four years; school director, ten years; a member of the town board a number of years, and is at present police magistrate of the village, being elected in the spring of 1900. In politics he is independent, voting for the man and not the party, and in his religious connections he and his family are members of the Reformed Lutheran church. For thirteen years he was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, but recently withdrew from the order, though he still holds membership in Sibley Lodge, No. 761, F. & A. M. Progressive and public spirited, he takes a deep interest in public affairs, and is justly numbered among the valued citizens of his town and county.

REV. JAMES J. QUINN.

Rev. James J. Quinn, resident pastor of St. John's Catholic church, of Chatsworth, was born in Tolono, Champaign county, Illinois, May 16, 1857, and is the second child of Patrick J. and Margaret (Doheney) Quinn, both of whom were natives of county Tipperary, Ireland, and came to the United States when young. For several years the father was successfully engaged in the mercantile business in New York, and while a resident of that city was married, at St. Peter's Catholic church, and Barclay street, June 11, 1854. Shortly afterward he came to Illinois and located in Tolono, where he opened a general store, being one of the first merchants of that village. While living there he assisted in building the Catholic church and in securing twenty-two acres of land adjoining for church use. Since 1885 he has lived a retired life, and has made his home in Danville the last few years. In his family were six children, four sons and two daughters, but the daughters are both deceased, and Frank, a successful physician and surgeon, of Peoria, died in

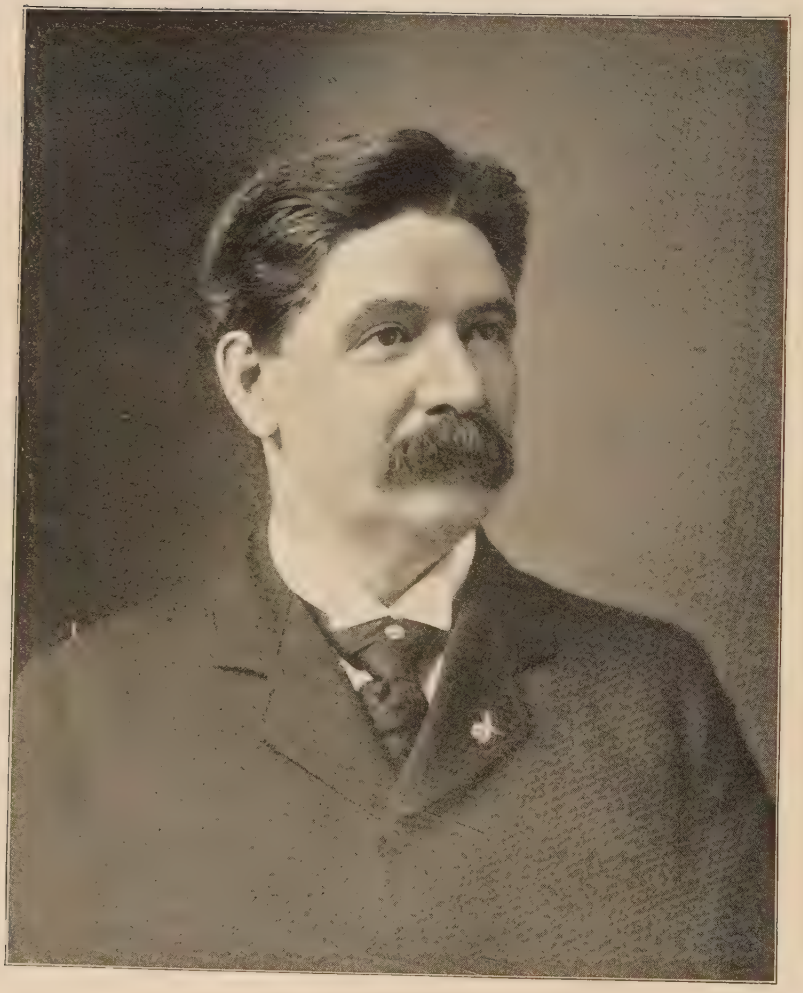
1896. Of those living, James J. is the oldest. John P. is now pastor of St. John's Catholic church of Peoria, where he has become prominent as a successful organizer and builder of churches. Joseph W. is station agent for the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad at Milwaukee. The sons were all graduated at Notre Dame, College, Indiana.

Father Quinn, of this review, remained at home until fifteen years of age attending the public schools and worked with his father in the mercantile business. He also spent two years with a large wholesale firm in Chicago. At the age of seventeen he entered Notre Dame College, where he was graduated in law in 1878, and in the classical course in 1879. For one year he engaged in the practice of law, and then entered the Theological Semilary, where he was ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal Gibbons, in 1882. The following year he served as secretary to Bishop Spalding of Peoria, and in 1884 as assistant to Rev. T. S. Ketling of Champaign. From 1884 to 1887 he was assistant to Rev. Weldon, of Holy Trinity church, Bloomington, and during this time aided in building several churches, being especially qualified for that work by the business training he had received. From 1887 to 1889 he was pastor of the churches at Chebanse and Clifton, Iroquois county, and the churches at both places were built under his pastorate. In 1889 he was given his present charge in Chatsworth, and there again his business ability has been called into play. He purchased property and erected a modern brick edifice, also a parsonage and academy, which are now valued at over sixty thousand dollars. The church is a model affair, being the most substantial and beautiful, as well as valuable property, in the Peoria diocese. The furnishings were all imported and the very best obtainable.

The school organized by Father Quinn is one of the best in the county, is supported by money collected from the parishioners, and is open to the children of the town and county, while the teachers are among the best in this country, all talented ladies of the Order of Sisters of the Holy Cross of Notre Dame. Father Quinn began work on the church in 1889, and in 1894 the debt was lifted through his skillful management. He also erected the church at Forrest, which property is valued at twenty-five hundred dollars, and in eight months it was dedicated and free from indebtedness. He is revered by all his people and is their chosen leader. Through his early experiences and business education he has acquired a knowledge which is invaluable to him as a pastor, bringing him in touch with his congregation, of whom he has the entire confidence. He is also one to whom the town owes much of its advancement, both in business and social life, and his advice is sought by all who know him, both Protestants and Catholics. His familiarity with the law and business affairs gives him a decided advantage, and he interests himself in any enterprise which he believes will benefit the people of his town or county.

JOHN A. PETTETT.

John A. Pettett, a well-known postal clerk in charge of the sixth division on the Chicago & Alton Railroad, from Chicago to St. Louis, and a prominent citizen of Dwight, Illinois, who has always been especially active and prominent in fraternal



J. A. PETTETT.

MISS MATILDA F. PETTETT.

societies, was born in Hastings, Sussex, England, December 20, 1846, and is a son of Henry and Mary Ann (Standin) Pettett, representatives of old English families. On crossing the Atlantic, the parents first located in Canada, but after a short time spent there, they went to Tonica, Illinois, and from there came to Dwight, where the father followed his trade of mason until called to his final rest, February 2, 1892. In politics he was a Republican and in religious belief a Methodist. His wife died January 26, 1892. To this worthy couple were born seven children, three of whom died in England during childhood. The others are George T., a resident of Dwight; John A., our subject; Henry S., who is living a retired life in Lacon, Illinois, and Howard C., Republican nominee for states attorney of Peoria county, Illinois, in 1900, and a resident of Chillicothe.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were passed under the parental roof, and his education was obtained in the common schools. At the age of thirteen he worked in a tailor's shop in his native town of Hastings, and followed that occupation until coming to America, in 1868. Before leaving England he was married, in October, 1865, to Miss Fannie Freeman, a native of Biddenden, England, and a daughter of James Freeman. By this union were born four children, namely: Matilda F., her father's faithful and efficient housekeeper; Henry J., who married Nellie Lutz, and is now an employee of the Santa Fe Railroad, residing in Streator, Illinois; George T., who is engaged in the butcher and market business in Kingfisher, Oklahoma, and Alice E., who died at the age of two and a half years.

Coming to the United States in 1868, Mr. Pettett located in Tonica, Illinois. He concluded to try some employment which would give him more outdoor exercise than his trade, and being willing to accept and honest and honorable work, he took that which was most available, and for some years was engaged in farm labor, which he found, when pursued on the hustling, hurrying plan of the Illinois farmer, to present quite a contrast to his previous sedentary occupation. On the 20th of March, 1870, he came to Dwight and entered the service of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, being employed for about ten years in various capacities in the round house and as fireman on the road. In 1880 he entered the general baggage office of the same road at Chicago, where he spent two years, and in 1882 was appointed railway postal clerk from Chicago to Peoria, but after a few weeks was transferred to the Chicago and St. Louis run in the sixth division, which position he has faithfully and efficiently filled for eighteen years. For several years past he has served as clerk in charge of the force on this division, which is composed of three men besides himself. This division is one of the most important in the state, being between the two principal cities of the Mississippi valley.

The greatest misfortune that has befallen Mr. Pettett was the death of his wife, who was to him a faithful companion and helpmeet and was beloved by all who knew her. She passed away September 19, 1874, and his parents then made their home with him until they, too, were called to their final rest. For three years he has now been a resident of Dwight and is numbered among its honored and highly respected citizens. His present responsible position indicates the character of his service and its appreciа-

tion by those over him. His exacting duties have always prevented him from taking any active part in political affairs, and although he is an uncompromising supporter of Republican principles and a worker in the ranks of his party, he has never aspired to political honors. The only public office he has ever accepted has been in connection with educational work as a member of the school board, and he resigned that position after serving five years. He is a member of the Hamilton Republican Club, of Chicago, and is an active and official member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Dwight.

It is in social and fraternal matters that Mr. Pettett is best known to the public, having always taken an active part in such work. He is a thirty-second-degree Mason, a member of Livingston Lodge, No. 371, F. & A. M., of Dwight; Wilmington Chapter, No. 142, R. A. M.; St. Bernard Commandery, No. 35, K. T., in which he has served as commissary and quartermaster; Chicago Council, No. 4, R. & S. M.; Oriental Consistory, of Chicago, and Medinah Temple of the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the St. Bernard Drill Corps, which is conceded to be the best in the United States and has won many honors in competitive exemplification of the work, and in 1891 he organized Dwight Chapter, No. 166, O. E. S., of which both he and his daughter are charter members, and take an active part in its work. He first joined Bloomington Chapter, No. 50, but on account of distance and inconveniences, he set on foot measures which resulted in the organization of Dwight Chapter, with himself as worthy patron. In this, as in other fraternity work, Mr. Pettett has taken much pains and is given high praise by the founder of the floral work of the order, for his inimitable manner of exemplifying the work. His daughter is at present holding the office of worthy matron, and like her father takes a deep interest in the order, as well as in other society and church work. Both are charter members of Prairie Queen Chapter, No. 370, Daughters of Rebecca, and she has twice served as presiding officer and as representative to the grand lodge. Mr. Pettett is a prominent member of Dwight Lodge, No. 513, I. O. O. F., of which he is past noble grand, and is also past chief patriarch of Pacific Encampment, No. 126. He is a charter member of Hebron Lodge, No. 175, K. P., of Dwight, and for twenty years has been a member of the Independent Order of Mutual Aid. He is the organizer of Pettett Lodge, No. 347, A. O. U. W., of Dwight, which was named in his honor. He was elected the first master workman at its organization, in March, 1888, and since then has served continuously as deputy grand master and representative to the grand lodge. In the work of all these orders he has taken an active and prominent part and stands deservedly high in the esteem of his fraternal brethren. Probably no man in the state is better or more favorably known in fraternal circles than he, and he is also numbered among the representative citizens of Dwight—one whose genial, cordial nature has made him hosts of friends.

JOSEPH S. FRANCIS.

One of the most straightforward, energetic and successful business men of Livingston county is Joseph S. Francis, who is

now prominently and actively connected with the commercial interests of Forrest. In the field of business opportunity is unlimited. Military and political life have high honors for but few, but in the field of trade the possibilities are many, and the ambitious, energetic and determined man may work his way steadily upward, attaining a position of affluance and prominence that cammands the respect and admiration of all. This Mr. Francis has won, and the salient features in his success are indefatigable energy, untiring labor and sound business judgment.

He was born in Jackson township, Brown county, Ohio, August 16, 1845, a son of John and Margaret (Ross) Francis. The father was born in county Cavan, Ireland, in February, 1812, and when five years of age came to the United States in company with his father, Edward Francis, who brought his family to this country. The grandfather of our subject was born in Scotland and on account of the feudal wars went to England, where he married. He afterward removed to the Emerald Isle, where he carried on farming. On crossing the Atlantic he located in Brown county, Ohio, where he purchased a farm at a place called Ash Ridge. There he built a good home and became one of the leading residents of the community. He belonged to the Presbyterian church and died in that faith in 1852.

John Francis was one of a family of four sons and three daughters. He was reared in Brown county, Ohio, there learned the cooper's trade, and after his marriage also engaged in farming, making his home in Ohio until 1860. In early life he joined the Methodist Episcopal church and became one of the leading members of his congregation—the Mount Olivet church. The house of worship was located on his farm. He served as class-leader and steward and his home was always the place of entertainment for the ministers who visited in that locality. All of his seven children were also members of that church. In his farming operations he was also very successful. He was also recognized as one of the public-spirited men of the community, held a number of offices, including those of school director and supervisor, and faithfully discharged every trust reposed in him. On the 16th of August, 1837, he married Miss Margaret Ross, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Lazarus Ross, who was born in Virginia and at one time was engaged in packing salt across the mountains to Cincinnati, where he traded it to the settlers. He finally located in Claremont county, Ohio, where his daughter Margaret was born. Subsequently he moved to Brown county, Ohio, and lived with his children for some time, but his death occurred in Grant county, Indiana.

All of the children of John and Margaret Francis were born in Brown county, Ohio, and in 1860 the family removed thence to Illinois, the father purchasing two hundred and forty acres of land adjoining the town of Forrest on the south. His pioneer home was only 12x14 feet, but as time pased he made many substantial improvements on his place, erected a more commodious residence, and, by additional purchase, extended the boundaries of his farm. When he came to the county there were but five or six members of the Methodist Episcopal church in the locality. He at once identified himself with the earnest little band of Christians, was one of the most liberal contributors toward the building of the new house of worship and was one of the four

who guaranteed the payment for the building of the church. His contributions to the work amounted to three thousand dollars. He served as class leader and steward and did all in his power to promote the growth of the church. For several years prior to his death he lived in town and devoted most of his time to church work. He was one of the first justices of the peace of his neighborhood, elected in 1801, and in that office he served through the exciting period of the war. He was also school treasurer for several years, and held that office at the time of the erection of the new building. He died September 5, 1893, respected by all who knew him. His widow, who was born January 14, 1814, still survives. They had five sons and two daughters, all of whom are living, namely: James G., now of Fairbury; Edward R., of Forrest; William W., of Monticello, Indiana; J. S., of this review; Albert, who is living on the old homestead; Emma J., now the wife of H. B. Watson, of Forrest; and Lydia F., wife of Nathan Hurt, of Oakland, California.

Mr. Francis, whose name introduces this review, began his education in Ohio. He worked on the home farm through the summer months and in the winter attended the district schools. With his parents he came to Livingston county in 1860, and in 1864, at the age of nineteen, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Infantry. He was sent to Chattanoga and joined his regiment at Atlanta, just before Sherman started on the march to the sea. He took part in that celebrated movement, participated in all the engagements of that campaign and was in the Grand Review at Washington. He was discharged from Company E and assigned to the Forty fifth Illinois Regiment, sent to Springfield, and was there paid off and discharged, in June, 1865.

For two years thereafter Mr. Francis remained on the home farm. In 1869 he came to Forrest and was employed as a clerk in a general store until 1871, when he began dealing in general merchandise on his own account, continuing in the business until 1876, when he returned to the farm. He then engaged in agricultural pursuits, and in connection with his brother Albert he established the first tile factory in this part of the state, continuing its operation with marked success until the fall of 1885, when he sold his interest to his brother and came to Forrest. Here he began dealing in coal and feed at his present location. He soon secured a large trade, and in 1892 he extended the field of his operations by purchasing a half interest in a grain warehouse and elevator. He began buying and shipping grain, carrying on a very extensive business, with Chicago as his market. He afterward became sole proprietor of the enterprise, which he carried on very prosperously until April, 1900, when he sold out. He still deals in coal, feed and stone and takes contracts for stone work and building. His business interests are always carefully directed, and his sound judgment and unfaltering energy have enabled him to work his way continuously upward. For seven or eight years he has been a director in the Building & Loan Association of Forrest.

On the 16th of August, 1881, Mr. Francis was united in marriage to Miss Ella S. Williamson, a daughter of William J. and Nancy (Snedeker) Williamson. Her father was from Russellville, Brown county, Ohio, where he spent his entire life, engaged in farming. Both he and his wife were very earnest and ardent members of the Presby-

terian church of Russellville. Unto Mr. and Mrs. Francis have been born nine children, seven of whom are living: Lulu W., Bertha I., Nancy M., Mary E., Josie, Lawrence D. and Morris L. The two deceased were Walter, who died at the age of four years; and Homer, who died when two months old. They have a beautiful three-story brick residence in Forrest—the first brick house in the city, and the household is noted for its charming hospitality.

His fellow townsmen, recognizing his worth and ability, have frequently called upon Mr. Francis to serve in positions of public trust. He served as highway commissioner from 1884 until 1898, during which time all of the iron and steel bridges of the township were built. He was a member of the board of education three terms and was on the building committee when the school-house was enlarged. He and his wife are members of the Congregational church, and he also served on its building committee at the time of the erection of its house of worship. He has twice served as superintendent of the Sunday-school and has always taken an active part in the work of the church, contributing most liberally to its support. He belongs to Forrest Post, No. 114, G. A. R., has several times been its commander and has been its representative to encampments. He is a charter member of the Modern Woodmen Camp at Forrest, has six times been its principal officer and has twice been delegate to the grand lodge. As has been indicated in this sketch, Mr. Francis is a prominent factor in business, social and political life in Forrest. He withholds his support from no movement or measure calculated to prove of public good, and is indeed a public-spirited and valued citizen; in business his word is as good as any bond that was ever solemnized by signature or seal; and in private life he has an unassailable reputation, which commands the respect and has won him the confidence of all.

WILLIAM LARGE.

William Large, a representative farmer of Pleasant township, Livingston county, who owns a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 14, was born in England, March 15, 1856, and when a year and a half old was brought to America by his parents, Leonard and Sarah (Mitchell) Large. The family first located in Woodford county, Illinois, where the father purchased land and engaged in farming for a time, but about 1873 sold that property and bought eighty acres of land in Pleasant Ridge township, Livingston county, south of our subject's present farm. He improved that place and made his home there until death. There the mother is still living at the age of seventy.

The greater part of the education of our subject was acquired in the public schools of Woodford county, though after coming to Livingston county he atended school for four or five winters, his advantages along that line being beter than the average boy of that time. When not in school he assisted in the work of the farm, and at the age of twenty-one commenced operating a farm on his own account, meeting with success from the start. Prior to his marriage he purchased his present place, which at that time was only partially improved. He has since built a good house and barn, set out trees and placed the land under a high state of cultivation. In connection

with general farming he is engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of hogs. Besides his property here, he owns land in White and Jasper counties, Indiana, which he has improved, and he is acknowledged as one of the most successful farmers of the county.

On the 20th of September, 1881, Mr. Large married Miss Clara Sutton, a daughter of J. B. Sutton, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. She died July 3, 1893, leaving four children: Maude, Dwight, Marion and Ethel, who have been given good school advantages and are still at home. Mr. Large is an active member and liberal supporter of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which his wife was also a member. He is also connected with the Court of Honor and affiliates with the Republican party. Wherever known he is held in high regard and his friends are many throughout the county.

GEORGE W. McCABE.

George W. McCabe, the leading banker of Chatsworth and one of the representative business men of Livingston county, is a native of Illinois, born in Brimfield, Peoria county, March 1, 1863. His father, Patrick McCabe, was a native of Ireland, and in 1845 came to the United States, landing in New Orleans. During this time he enlisted and served about eighteen months in the Mexican war. He settled in Peoria county, Illinois, three years later, but in New Orleans he was married, in 1850, to Catherine Fox, who was also born in Ireland and came to America about the same time as her husband. Since his marriage he has made his home permanenty in this state, and until 1894 carried on farming very successfully, though devoting most of his time to the stock business. He came to this country with the hope of securing a home, and with the characteristic energy of his race he succeeded far beyond his expectations, and was the owner of a well-improved farm of two hundred and forty acres in Peoria county. In 1894 he retired from active labor and moved to the city of Peoria, where he purchased a comfortable home and resided there until his death, August 14, 1900, at the age of seventy-eight years. His widow survives him, being seventy-one years of age. To this worthy couple were born eight children, of whom five are still living, namely: Alice is now the widow of J. McClary, of Chicago. Edward D., a graduate of the Michigan University at Ann Arbor, and now a prominent attorneys of Peoria, has been successfuly engaged in practice for several years and is one of the best probate and chancery attorneys in the city. He served four years under President Cleveland as government storekeeper at Peoria. Elisha B. follows farming on the old home place in Peoria county. George W., our subject, is next in order of birth. Kate E. is at home with her parents in Peoria.

The early education of George W. McCabe was acquired in the common schools of Brimfield, and he later took a commercial course at St. Viatur's College at Kankakee, and a business course at Bryant & Stratton's College, in Chicago. During the year of 1892 he read law with his brother in Peoria, but the following year came to Chatsworth and purchased a lot, upon which he erected a modern fire-proof bank building, beginning work in April and opening for business in October of that year. Almost

immediately he secured a liberal patronage, and is now doing the leading general banking business of the community, having as his assistant H. S. Cowling, a prominent young man of Chatsworth. He is enterprising, energetic and progressive and has conducted the business for seven years without the loss of a dollar. He is also quite extensively interested in real estate and loans, and is president of the Peoria & Eastern Telephone Company, a growing concern, having several exchanges in the system. In 1897 Mr. McCabe purchased a lot at the corner of Fourth and Hickory streets and erected a modern residence, fitted with all improvements, and one of the handsomest and most convenient houses in Chatsworth. On the 2d of August, 1900, was incorporated the Commercial National Bank of Chatsworth, with capital stock amounting to twenty-five thousand dollars, of which amount Mr. McCabe took nineteen thousand dollars. To the new institution he turned over the entire assets of his private bank, and it was mainly through his efforts that the bank was organized. Believing that a National bank afforded more security to the depositors of the bank, and would the better secure the confidence of the community, he undertook the work of organization and incorporation. This new institution will afford to the citizens of Chatsworthand vicinity every facility for safe banking, and under the general management of Mr. McCabe it will secure the confidence of the community, as he occupies the position of cashier and general manager. The other officers of the bank are Stephen Herr, president; John F. Ryan, vice-president; and H. S. Cowling, assistant cashier.

On the 29th of September, 1897, Mr. Cabe married Miss Thresa M. Kehoe, a native of Chicago, of which city her father has been a progressive merchant for several years. By this union have been born two children: Katherine G. and George K. In politics Mr. McCabe is a Democrat on national issues, but in local affairs always supports the men best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party lines. He is a member of the State Bankers' Association of Illinois, and for over six years has been a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge of Chatsworth, in which he has held the office of chancellor commander for some time. Religiously he is a member of Sts. Peter's and Paul's Catholic church. In manner he is pleasant and genial, and is quite popular both in social and business circles.

JOHN W. FELLOWS.

John W. Fellows, one of the oldest residents of Pleasant Ridge township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Otisco, Onondaga county, New York, September 13, 1820, a son of Daniel and Jerusha (Fuller) Fellows. The father was a native of Germany and a farmer by occupation. In the county of his nativity our subject was reared and educated in much the usual manner of farmer boys of his day.

There Mr. Fellows was married, October 20, 1846, to Miss Margaret M. Lenson, who was born September 5, 1828. Her father, Nicholas Lenson, was also a native of Germany, and on his emigration to the United States settled in Tully township, Onondaga county, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Fellows have four children living, namely: James H., a wholesale dealer and manufacturer of candy in Kankakee, Illinois; Stephen, resident of Watseka; Daniel D., of

Wing, and Alfred W., who wedded Mary Tobenski and lives at home with his parents. Nicholas A. went south as a foreman in 1869 and is supposed to have died of yellow fever, and J. Henry died in Wing, Illinois, at the age of forty-two years, leaving five children.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fellows continued their residence in New York until 1852, when they started west. They made the journey by boat from Buffalo to Chicago, where they arrived on the 2d of November, that year, when that city was quite small, and then drove across the country with a team to Plainfield, Will county, Illinois, where Mr. Fellows engaged in farming upon rented land for seven years. The following two years were spent in McLean county. Determined to have a home, Mrs. Fellows worked hard until she had earned enough to purchase eighty acres of land in Pleasant Ridge township, Livingston county, to which she still holds the deed. The family located here in 1862, and the logs for their first home were hauled from Avoca. In 1781 a good frame residence was built and is still the home of the family. Mr. Fellows purchased eighty acres of land adjoining his wife's property, has tiled the entire amount and placed it under a high state of cultivation. They have planted shade trees and converted the place into a pleasant home. He has always engaged in general farming and has been quite successful. Although he has never taken a very active part in public affairs, he has served as school director and takes an active interest in all enterprises for the public good.

Since the age of twelve years Mrs. Fellows has been an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and has been a subscriber to the Christian Advocate since the first number of that paper was issued. She is quite fond of reading and is a most estimable lady. She and her husband have watched with interest the wonderful changes that have taken place in this region since locating here, have seen the wolves, deer and wild turkeys disappear, the railroad, telegraphs and telephones introduced, and towns and villages spring up.

OWEN MURTAUGH.

Owen Murtaugh, an honored and highly respected citizen of Chatsworth, is the possessor of a handsome property which now enables him to spend his declining years in the pleasurable enjoyment of his accumulations. The record of his life, previous to 1890, is that of an active, energetic, methodical and sagacious business man, who bent his energies to the honorable acquirement of a comfortable competence for himself and family.

Mr. Murtaugh was born in county Louth, Ireland, June 8, 1826, and belongs to a race of people who have been renowned for their energy and willingness to brave any danger that they may better themselves. He received his education in the common schools of his native land and remained in Ireland until twenty-six years of age, when he resolved to try his fortunes on this side of the Atlantic. Coming to what was then considered the far west, he located in Binghamton, now Amboy, Lee county, Illinois, before the Illinois Central Railroad had been surveyed. He purchased eighty acres of raw prairie land near Sublette, that county, which he partly improved and then disposed of at a profit. He had previously worked as

OWEN MURTAUGH.

REV. WILLIAM M. MURTAUGH.

a farm hand for some time, and with the money thus obtained he purchased that property. Later he purchased a tract of nuimproved land in Marshall county, where he made his home for some time.

While residing there, Mr. Murtaugh was married, in 1855, to Miss Bridget Lawless, also a native of Ireland, and an only daughter, who came to America with her parents in 1849, and died in 1864. By this union were born two sons: William Matthew, born in 1860, took a business course at St. Viateur's College, in Kankakee, and began studying for the priesthood at Watertown, Wisconsin, where he remained three years. Later he attended school in Montreal, Canada, for a year, and was graduated from St. Mary's in Baltimore, Maryland, being ordained to the priesthood at Peoria, Illinois, in 1888, by Bishop Spalding. He served as assistant to Father Hedges, of Pontiac, Illinois, for one year, and for nine years was stationed at Keithsburg, Illinois, where by his business ability and good management he built a fine church and parsonage. In 1898 he was transferred to Sheffield, and is now doing a good work in improving that parish. Francis, the younger son, owns and operates a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Charlotte township, Livingston county. He married Sarah Harrington, and they have four children: Agnes M., Hazel G., Owen W. and James J. F., all attending the district schools.

Soon after his marriage, upon seeing the men who were returning from the gold fields of California, and hearing the reports they made, Mr. Murtaugh decided he could make money there, being young and strong, as well as willing to brave any dangers that he might add to the comfort of himself and his young wife. After making preparations for the journey he went to New Orleans by way of the Mississippi river, and then crossed the Isthmus, and by steamer proceeded to San Francisco, where he landed after an interesting voyage of four weeks. For eighteen months he followed mining and prospecting, meeting with hardships and encountering many Indians and wild beasts in the mountains. Feeling abundantly repaid for his labors, his thoughts turned toward home and the bride he had left in Illinois, in 1857, by way of the Panama route, he returned to Marshall county, Illinois. In March of the following year, with his family, he came to Livingston county and purchased a quarter-section of land in Charlotte township, which at that time was all swamp and prairie land. The nature of the country is shown by the following adventure which one day befell him. He started from Pontiac with about eight hundred feet of lumber, but owing to the poor condition of the raods was obliged to throw about half of the load off when half way home, and nearly all of the remainder when within five miles of home, where he arrived on horseback with only a few boards, finding that an empty wagon was a load of itself through the swamps. The family camped out for a few weeks until he could erect a cabin. After eleven years of hard labor he succeeded in getting his land well improved. Not having enough land, Mr. Murtaugh sold his farm in Livingston county, in 1869, and by moving about a mile away purchased four hundred and forty acres in Ford county, which was then but poorly improved, but he soon transformed it into a most desirable farm, and successfully engaged in farming there until 1890. He made a specialty of stock raising, and also bought and fattened stock for the Chicago

markets, shipping on an average of two carloads of cattle and the same amount of hogs per year. He met with success in all his undertakings and became one of the well-to-do men of his community. He sold one hundred and twenty acres of his farm and gave the proceeds to his son Francis to give him a start in life, but still retains three hundred and twenty acres, which he rents, it bringing him a snug income. In 1890 he purchased a pleasant home in Chatsworth, for which he paid one thousand dollars, and which he has since greatly improved, and there he is now living a quiet, retired life, free from all care and responsibility.

In 1865, Mr. Murtaugh was again married, his second union being with Miss Alice Cleary, who was born in Ireland in 1828, and came to America in 1852. After living in the east for a time, she came to Will county, Illinois, in 1859, and was living there at the time of her marriage. Three children were born to them, namely: Mary, who died in 1889; Eugene P., who was killed by the kick of a horse, June 8, 1891; and Alice E., an accomplished young lady, at home with her parents.

In politics Mr. Murtaugh is a Democrat, though he cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and at local elections supports the men whom he considers best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party lines. He has never been radical in his views. During his early residence in this county he served as school trustee, and filled the same office in Ford county for twenty-one years, also road commissioner for several years. He is a member of the Catholic church of Chatsworth, and is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him, his pleasant, genial manner winning him many friends. In 1873 Mr. Murtaugh returned to Ireland to visit the scenes of his boyhood, and on his arrival there found that his father, Matthew Murtaugh, had been dead about three months. He spent three months in renewing early acquaintances and traveling over Ireland and Wales, and also visiting several places of interest in Scotland. As he expresses it, he "went for a good time and had one."

HARVEY BUTTON.

There is no rule for achieving success, yet certain elements are always found in the acquirement of prosperity and these are close application, indefatigable energy and sound judgment—qualities which have proven salient features in the success which has attended the efforts of Mr. Button and made him one of the substantial citizens of Forrest. From a humble apprenticeship, he has advanced steadily step by step, until he has long since left the ranks of the many to stand among the prosperous few, and at all times his career has been such as to command the public admiration and the respect and confidence of those with whom he has been associated. He is now engaged in looking after his real estate investments, including both city and country property, but for many years he was a well known figure in railroad circles.

Mr. Button was born at Palatine Bridge, Montgomery county, New York, November 11, 1838, a son of Jesse and Nancy (Van Slyke) Button. His father was born in Syracuse, New York, in March, 1820, and the grandfather was Jesse Button, who was probably a native of Syracuse, but was born of English parentage. He became a prominent farmer near Syracuse and died in that

city at the advanced age of eighty years. The father of our subject was reared at Syracuse and in early manhood went to Palatine Bridge, where he engaged in contracting and building. There he married Miss Van Slyke, a daughter of William Van Slyke, who was born at Palatine Bridge or in that locality. He was a farmer and a member of the Lutheran church. His father was a native of Holland, but came to America in colonial days and served in the Revolutionary war with the colonial army.

The father of our subject removed to Little Falls, New York, about 1849, and there continued contracting and building until he was killed while raising a building, in 1861. He left seven children, of whom our subject was the eldest son and second child. The mother, who lived in Illinois for some years, died at Palatine Bridge, in January, 1898, at the age of eighty, her birth having occurred on the 1st of March, 1818. The parents were worthy members of the Universalist church.

Mr. Button, of this review, was educated in his native town and at Little Falls, spending two years in an academy. He then learned the trade of a machinist, serving regular apprenticeship of three years. In 1856, soon after its completion, he went to Detroit, Michigan, and there began railroad work, being employed near Windsor, on the construction of the old Great Western Railroad. He was then working on the Michigan Central from Detroit, filling the position of fireman until 1860, when he was made an engineer, and ran from Detroit to Marshall. He served in that capacity for two years, after which he spent six months on the construction engine of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, running from Mendota, Illinois. After the expiration of that period he ran from Aurora to Galesburg and Quincy, being thus engaged until the fall of 1865. He hauled many of the soldiers proceeding to the south. He carried eighteen cars of soldiers out of Quincy one day and another train of eighteen cars followed. They stopped at Keokuk Junction for water and the second train oertook them. The soldiers had been fooling with the handbrakes, and Mr. Button told the officers if they did not keep the men away from the brakes they would be stopped and the other train would run into them. This did little good and after six or seven more miles had been passed, as they were going around a curve near Augusta, the soldiers again stopped the train. Mr. Button then jumped off and told the conductor to start the train as soon as he could get the brakes off, and he (Mr. Button) would crawl over the train and into his engine, his object being to get the brakes off as soon as possible and get out of the way of the other train. He just succeeded in this when the other train came around the curve, and he signalled to the fireman to go ahead and get out of the way, thus saving the lives of many soldiers. Mr. Button then again saw the officers in charge and told them he would not pull out until a guard was put at the brakes. This was done, after which all went well.

In the fall of 1865 Mr. Button went to Springfield, Illinois, and ran an engine on the Wabash road until the fall of 1880, when he was sent to Forrest to take charge of the shops as general foreman, holding that position until January, 1893. This is an important shop, in which many men are employed. It was not then finished and he put in the machinery, placing everything in working operation. He had charge of about sixty men and continued as superintendent

of the shops and his retirement from active business labor, other than the supervision of his property interests. Working his way steadily upward, he was familiar with every branch of the work and was therefore very competent to direct the labors of others. He was one of the most trusted representatives of the road, enjoying the confidence of the corporation and the respect of all whom he superintended.

In the meantime Mr. Button had become the owner of both farm and town property, and in addition to his realty in Livingston county, he owns farms in McLean county, Illinois, and also in Indiana. He erected the business block at the corner occupied by the drug store and by the Masonic lodge— one of the best blocks in the town. He has also built a large two-story brick building on the next corner—one of the most modern and improved in the city. Since 1893 his attention has been given to the management of his investments and to real estate dealing.

While in Mendota Mr. Button was married on the 24th of December, 1873, to Miss Jennie Jewitt, daughter of Charles Jewitt, who removed to Mendota from De Kalb county, where he had engaged in farming until 1840, when he went to California, where he remained until 1852. He then engaged in the grain business in Mendota. He had come to Illinois from Yorkshire, England. After his first residence in California, he again spent two years there, and then once more lived in Mendota for a time, but ultimately removed to Remington, Indiana, where he purchased a farm. The marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Button has been blessed with one child, Clara, now the wife of David T. Torrence, of Chicago. Mr. Button is a Republican in his political views and votes for the men and measures of the party, but has never been an aspirant for office. He belongs to Forrest Lodge, No. 914, F. & A. M., and attends and supports the Congregational church. In politics he is recognized as an important factor in local party ranks and has frequently been a delegate to county and state conventions. He aided in nominating Governor Fifer, was again a member of the state convention in 1892, and supported Governor Tanner's candidacy in 1896. His life has been one of marked industry and usefulness, and in every relation of life he has commanded the respect, confidence and esteem of his fellowmen. Always just and upright, oftimes generous and liberal, ever an advocate of the right, his life stands in exemplification of our highest type of American manhood.

WILLIAM A. WILLIAMSON.

William A. Williamson, one of the highly respected and honored citizens of Saunemin township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born near Russellville, Brown county, Ohio, March 18, 1858. His father, William Williamson, was a native of Fleming county, Kentucky, and a son of John Williamson, a Revolutionary soldier, who removed to southern Ohio when his son was only ten years old and there followed farming throughout the remainder of his life. He died at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. The father grew to manhood in Ohio and also followed the occupation of farming in that state until his death, which occurred October 20, 1889. He was quite an extensive farmer and served as justice of the peace. In early life he married Nancy Snedaker, a native of

southern Ohio and a daughter of Garrett Snedaker, who moved from Pennsylvania to that state and was also an agriculturist. Mrs. Williamson now makes her home with our subject. She is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, of which her husband was an elder for twenty years and a Sunday school teacher many years, always having taken an active part in church affairs.

During his boyhood and youth William A. Williamson obtained a good education in the common schools near his home and at Russellville, Ohio. At the age of twenty years he left home and commenced life for himself as a farmer. In 1884 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and rented a farm in Forrest township for eight years. In the fall of 1891 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Saunemin township, but did not locate thereon until the spring of 1893. It had previously been used as a pasture and there was not a single improvement upon it, but he erected a pleasant residence, a good barn and windmill, set out trees, and made many other improvements which add greatly to the value and beauty of the place.

On the 4th of September, 1884, Mr. Williamson was united in marriage with Miss Ella Heckert of Forrest, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Miller) Heckert. She was reared by E. R. Francis, as her mother died when she was quite young. By this union have been born five children: Edward, Susie and Harry, living, and Morris and Ada, deceased. The parents are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and the family is one of high standing in the community where they reside. Socially, Mr. Williamson affiliates with the Modern Wodmen of America, and politically, is identified with the Republican party. For six years he has served as school director, and in 1900 was elected road commissioner, in which capacity he has assisted in making many improvements in his township, including the construction of a new bridge over the Vermilion river at a cost of three thousand dollars.

WILLIAM P. GOEMBEL.

When after years of long and earnest labor in some honorable field of business, a man puts aside all cares to spend his remaining years in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil, it is certainly a well deserved reward of his early industry.

"How blest is he who crowns in shades like these
A youth of labor with an age of ease,"

wrote the poet, and the world everywhere recognizes the justice of a season of rest following an active period of business life. Mr. Goembel is now living retired at his home on section 4, Fayette township, Livingston county, and his history is one that shows the accomplishment of well-directed labor.

Mr. Goembel was born in Hesse-Cassel, Germany, February 20, 1833, a son of Philip and Caroline Eliza (Stoeber) Goembel, also natives of that country, where the father carried on a damask manufactory for a period of thirty years. He then came to the United States in 1851, and first settled in Tazewell county, Illinois, where he followed farming five years. At the end of that time he came to Livingston county, and made his home in the extreme southeastern part of what was then known as Oliver's Grove, but is now Germanville township, until his death in 1875. In early life he was an in-

dustrious, energetic man, but spent his last years in retirement from active labor. His wife also died in Germanville township in 1872, and they now sleep side by side. In their family were only two children: William P., our subject; and Caroline, also a native of Germany, and now the wife of Nicholas Froebe, a well-to-do farmer of California, who still owns over two hundred acres of land in Germanville township, Livingston county, Illinois, which he leases. They had six children, namely: William P., a farmer of that township, who died at the age of thirty-eight years, leaving a widow and five children, the former now deceased; Caroline, wife of Henry Hendricks, a prosperous farmer of Germanville township, by whom she has six children; Matilda, who married Henry Hummel, a well-to-do farmer of the same township, and died in 1896, leaving four children; Elizabeth, wife of John Hummel, of Germanville township, by whom she has several children; Emma, who is with her parents in California; and Charles, a farmer of that state, who is married and has one child.

William P. Goembel was educated in private schools of his native land, and accompanied the family on their emigration to America, remaining with his parents until twenty-three years of age, when he commenced farming for himself in Tazewell county. In the fall of 1856 he came to Livingston county and purchased one hundred and four acres of raw prairie land in Germanville township, which he tiled, broke and improved, making it one of the best farms in that locality. He resided there twenty-four years, during which time he bought a large amount of land, including two hundred and forty acres in Charlotte township; one hundred and sixty acres adjoining his home farm in Germanville township, and also property in Chatsworth and Fayette townships, Livingston county. In connection with general farming he devoted considerable attention to the raising of stock. In November, 1880, he moved to the village of Strawn, where he successfully engaged in business as a dealer in grain, lumber, coal and farming implements until 1891, when he located upon his present farm on section 4, Fayette township, making it his home ever since. It consists of three hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land, and is successfully operated by his sons. After his removal to the farm, Mr. Goembel continued to carry on his business in the village for a few years, but for the past six or seven years has lived a retired life.

On the 13th of December, 1863, Mr. Goembel married Miss Elizabeth Shroen, also a native of Hesse-Cassel, Germany, born in 1844, on the farm of her father, who spent his entire life on his native soil, dying there in 1852. Her mother came to this country and died in Fayette township, Livingston county. To Mr. and Mrs. Goembel were born the following children: Catherine is the wife of Nelson Kiner, a prosperous farmer of Marseilles, Illinois, and they have two children, Earl and Eva; Mollie is the wife of F. M. Curyea, a farmer of Fayette township; Maggie is the wife of J. M. Mahon, station agent for the Big Four Railroad Company at Mansfield, Illinois; John, a farmer of Fayette township, married Laura Welling, and they have two children, Marguerite and William P.; Charles N. is living on the home farm; Mary is the wife of C. J. Bartlett, station agent on the Wabash Railroad at Mansfield, and they have two children, Clinton and Elizabeth; William, a farmer of Belle Prairie township,

Livingston county, married Ida Younger, and they have one child; Paulina and Minnie are both at home; and Della died in Fayette township, September 17, 1889.

The family are members of the German Lutheran church, and Mr. Goembel is also a member of Sibley Lodge, F. & A. M., and the Chapter and Commandery at Fairbury. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat, and has taken quite an active and influential part in local politics. During his entire residence in Strawn he was a member of the village board; was the first supervisor of Germanville township, which office he held for a number of years in that township, and for some time in Fayette township. He has also served as township treasurer several years and as justice of the peace, and takes a deep and commendable interest in public affairs, doing all in his power to promote the general welfare.

JOHN THOMAS LOVELL.

John Thomas Lovell, one of the most successful agriculturists of Broughton township, Livingston county, and one of its representative citizens, was born in Barnwell, Northamptonshire, England, April 3, 1837, and is a son of Moses and Mary (Bowen) Lovell. Throughout life the father was employed as a shepherd in that country, and also as a stacker during harvest. After a long and useful life he died, in 1888, and his wife passed away in 1885. In their family were five children, namely: William, who died at the age of nineteen years; John T., our subject; James, a farmer of Knox county, Nebraska; Samuel, a resident of England; and Elizabeth, wife of Henry Golden, a cabinetmaker of that country. Only our subject and James came to the United States.

John T. Lovell was reared on a farm and attended the public schools of his native land. At the age of eighteen years he came to America, landing in New York, and first settled in Castleton, Rutland county, Vermont, where he was in the employ of Dr. Joseph Perkins, a professor in the Burlington Medical College for eight years, working at first for twelve dollars per month. He remained with him until after the civil war, and in 1866 came to Illinois, spending a year and a half in Grundy county, where he herded cattle or worked at anything he could find to do. Subsequently he rented a farm and began life for himself.

In 1867 Mr. Lovell married Miss Caroline Coskey, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Nooks) Coskey. The mother is now deceased, but the father is still living at the age of seventy-eight years and makes his home in Braceville, Grundy county. Mrs. Lovell was born in Lockport, Illinois, in May, 1850, but was living in Grundy county at the time of her marriage. She is the oldest of a family of eight children, the others being Alice, Emma, Martha, Louisa, Mary, Frederick and Charles, a farmer of Sullivan township, Livingston county. Our subject and his wife had four children, of whom Alvin died at the age of sixteen years. William, a farmer of Broughton township, married Lena Trecker and they have two children, John and Frederick. Bertram operates the home farm for his father. Ollie Mae is the wife of George Kersey, a farmer of Cardriff, Illinois.

On coming to Livingston county in 1867 Mr. Lovell purchased forty acres of wild prairie land in Broughton township and has

made every improvement upon the place, including the erection of a barn and residence, the planting of an orchard and the tiling of the land. So successful has he been that he has added to his landed possessions from time to time until he now owns six forty-acre tracts, all under a high state of cultivation. In June, 1887, he had the misfortune to lose his barn, which was struck by lightning, killing his horses and destroying his hay. His loss, which amounted to about one thousand dollars, was only partly covered by insurance. With characteristic energy, however, he at once erected a larger and better barn. He carries on both farming and stock raising, and has prospered through his own unaided efforts. He is a man of good business ability and sound judgment and well deserves the success that he has achieved. Since 1898 he has practically lived a retired life, and has recently purchased a comfortable residence in Cabery, where he expects to make his home and enjoy a well-earned rest.

In his political views Mr. Lovell is a Republican and during almost his entire residence in this county has filled the office of school director in a most acceptable manner, having always taken an active interest in maintaining good schools. He also served as constable four years.

GEORGE H. CHAPMAN.

George H. Chapman, a progressive, energetic and successful agriculturist, whose home is on section 12, Odell township, Livingston county, Illinois, is a native of New York, his birth occurring in Ontario county, January 4, 1851. His parents, Hiram W. and Ann E. (Davis) Chapman, were born in the same county of good old New England stock, and were farming people, who continued to reside in New York until 1855, in which year they moved to La Salle county, Illinois, the father purchasing a quarter-section of land near Marseilles, to which he subsequently added another quarter-section. He speculated in land quite extensively, and was very successful in his operations, owning at the time of his death about five hundred acres. In political sentiment he was a Republican, but at local elections voted for the man and not the party. Although he was not a member of any church, he gave to their support, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. She died on the old home farm in 1882, at the age of fifty-nine years. Three years later he retired from active labor, and died March 2, 1897, at the age of seventy-seven. In their family were six sons and one daughter, of whom two died in infancy. The others are George H., our subject; Osmer, who was born in New York, and is now engaged in farming near the old homestead in La Salle county; Frank O., who is engaged in farming and the raising of full-blooded Poland China hogs and Short-horn cattle near the homestead; Lucina, who died in 1878, soon after graduating at a school in Battle Creek, Michigan; and Otis, who also lives on the old home farm. Those living are married and have families of their own.

During his boyhood and youth George H. Chapman aided in the work of the farm through the summer season and attended school in winter. He remained under the parental roof until he was married, January 24, 1877, to Miss Roselle Olmstead, who was born in Grundy county, Illinois, May

G. H. CHAPMAN.

MRS. G. H. CHAPMAN.

1, 1855, a daughter of Andrus and Ann E. (Archibald) Olmstead, residents of La Salle and Grundy counties for over fifty years. The mother, who was of Scotch descent, died in 1884, but the father is still living at the age of sixty-eight years and finds a pleasant home with our subject. He had four daughters besides Mrs. Chapman, namely: Mrs. J. E. Fingston, whose husbend is a butcher of Odell; Mrs. Eliza Layman, a resident of Scandia, Kansas; Mrs. Helen Duttenhavor, who lives near Kentland, Indiana; and Mrs. Esther Pope, who died in Odell, in 1883. Of the seven children, four sons and three daughters, born to Mr. and Mrs. Chapman, one died in infancy, and Harry at the age of nineteen years. Those living are Fred; Annie; Hattie, twin sister of Harry; Ernest and Gracie. They were educated in the Odell high school and the sons are now assisting their father on the farm.

For one year after his marriage Mr. Chapman was employed as a traveling salesman, having previously followed that occupation during the winter for eight years with good success. He lived upon a part of his father's land in La Salle county until the 1st of January, 1883, when he came to Livingston county and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Odell township, which he improved and transformed into a good farm. Later he bought one hundred and sixty acres of land near Dwight, which he fully improved and afterward sold, and at one time owned a similar amount in Iowa, which he sold at a good profit. Upon his fine farm in Odell township he has now (in the summer of 1900) erected a commodious and beautiful residence at a cost of thirty-five hundred dollars, fitted with all modern improvements and finished in natural woods, mostly cypress. It is beautifully located and will be one of the finest homes in the township. In connection with general farming Mr. Chapman has carried on dairying and has also dealt in short-horn cattle, for which he finds a ready sale in the local markets. For the past three years he has lived retired from active labor, but still superintends the operation of his farm.

At notional elections Mr. Chapman supports the Republican party, but in local affairs he votes independent of party lines, supporting the men whom he believes best qualified for office. He has served as pathmaster and school director, but has never cared for political preferment. Socially he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America, being chief consul of his camp three years and a charter member of the same. He is a man of high standing in the community where he resides, and has many friends both in La Salle and Livingston counties.

ELVIE T. POTTER.

Elvie T. Potter, a prosperous farmer and one of the most popular and influential citizens of Round Grove township, Livingston county, Illinois, his home being on section 15, was born March 9, 1857, in the house where he still resides, a son of Stephen and Mary A. (Killmer) Potter, natives of Washington county, New York, the former born April 1, 1806, the latter February 23, 1814. In the county of his nativity the father was reared on a farm and educated in the common schools until

fourteen years of age, when he went to Essex county, New York, and was there married August 25, 1834. Immediately after his marriage he removed to Cuyahoga county, Ohio, where he bought one hundred acres of heavily timbered land, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until 1844, when he sold the place and moved to Joliet, Illinois, becoming one of its early pioneers. Leaving his family in that city he went to California in 1849, and engaged in mining for five years with good success. He returned to Joliet in 1854, and in the spring of 1855 came to Livingston county, where he purchased a claim, consisting of the south half of section 15, Round Grove township, which at that time was all raw prairie. He erected thereon a story and a half frame house, eighteen by eighteen feet, it being the fifth house in the township and the first frame house, the rest being built of logs along the east branch of the Mazon. He made his home there until his death, which occurred August 31, 1889, and his remains were interred in Round Grove cemetery. He took an active part in public affairs and always supported the Democratic party. He was one of the leaders in organizing his town, and held most of the township offices. He was especially active in school matters, having assisted in organizing the school districts and building the first frame house. During the most of his life he was a member of the school board, serving as either director or trustee. His wife is still living and now resides with a daughter in Dwight. His parents, Thomas and Wealthy (Weller) Potter, were also natives of New York, while the former was of English and the latter of German extraction.

The subject of this sketch is the youngest in a family of eight children, the others being as follows: Charlotte B., born October 17, 1835, married Jesse Eldred, of Round Grove township, and died leaving four children; Cora, wife of Anthony Kern, of Streator, Illinois; L. J., a resident of Stockton, California; Stephen, of San Francisco; and Minnie, wife of William Farrar, of Peru, Indiana. (2) Mary died in childhood. (3) George W., born October 27, 1839, is connected with the Enterprise Manufacturing Company, of Joliet. He married Emma Godfrey, of Du Page county, Illinois, and they have three children: Edna, wife of Roy Hess, of Joliet; Pearl and Claire. (4) Margaret S. is living with her mother in Dwight. (5) Reuben K., born September 26, 1844, was telegraph operator and station agent at Dwight and Joliet for many years, and died July 7, 1885, unmarried. (6) Albert, born December 3, 1847, was engaged in detective work for some years, and is now serving as deputy sheriff of Miami county, Indiana, his home being in Peru. He married Louisa Hubbard, of Round Grove township, this county, and has one son, Guy E. (7) Alanson, born October 27, 1855, died January 28, 1858.

Elvie T. Potter grew to manhood on the old homestead and was educated in the district schools of the neighborhood. His brothers had all left home by the time he was fifteen years old, and he was therefore his father's only assistant in his extensive farming and stock raising operations. For ten years prior to his father's death our subject had entire charge of the place, and since then has purchased the interests of the other heirs in the farm, consisting of two hundred and forty acres of rich and arable land. He has engaged extensively

in feeding cattle and raising Hambletonian horses, and was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits up to within the last two years, when he leased his land, though he still resides thereon.

At the home of his father, April 22, 1886, Mr. Potter wedded Miss Mary Glover, a popular and successful teacher, who taught school in this and Grundy counties for ten years prior to her marriage. Her parents were Samuel L. and Martha J. (Dunn) Glover, also early settlers of this county, their home being in Broughton township. Her father was a native of New York, her mother of Pennsylvania, where their marriage was celebrated. They are now residents of Nebraska, and both here and in that state, Mr. Glover has taken an active part in public affairs, serving as supervisor and school trustee. He is a Republican in politics, and in early life was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was active in organizing the Grange. In his family were the following children: Deett, wife of Warren McRae, a farmer of Custer county, Nebraska; Mary, wife of our subject; Grace, wife of E. V. Sparks, a ranchman and teacher of Trapahoe county, Colorado; Henry B., who is at home with his parents in Custer county, Nebraska; Percy D., who married Augusta Lower, of Broughton township, this county, and is now living in Custer county, Nebraska; and Sidney L., a carpenter, who is living with our subject.

Mr. Potter has always taken an active part in political affairs and is a stanch supporter of the Democratic party. The first office he was called upon to fill was that of township collector, in which capacity he served his fellow citizens from 1887 to 1894, inclusive. He was also elected supervisor of his township in 1887 and held that office for eight consecutive years, at the end of which time he declined a re-nomination. For several years there had been no opposing candidate, and when there was he was always elected by a large majority. He served on the equalization committee his entire term; was chairman of the judiciary committee two years, and was also a member of the committees on education, fees and salaries, auditing, jail and jail acounts. During his administration the new county house was erected. For sixteen years he has served as school director in district No. 5. In 1892 he received the Democratic nomination for the legislature, and, notwithstanding the large Republican majority in other portions of the district, he received a vote sufficient to make his campaign a worthy one as an index to his popularity and ability. In all the relations of life he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, and commands the respect and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact, either in public or private life. Socially he is a charter member of Campus Camp, No. 2619, Modern Woodmen of America.

ALBERT J. SNEYD.

Albert J. Sneyd, one of Chatsworth's representative business men and most progressive citizens, was born in Lockport, Illinois, July 19, 1867, a son of Joseph and Mary (Kobliska) Sneyd, natives of Austria, who came to America with their respective parents when about fourteen years of age. The families settled near Lockport, Illinois, where the grandparents of our subject died soon afterward. There the father worked as a farm hand for eleven years, and after his marriage moved to Ashkum, Illinois,

where he purchased and improved a half-section of land. He was successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising until his death, which occurred in 1890. His wife died at the home of our subject in Chatsworth in 1896. Both were members of the Catholic church and he was a Democrat, but never took any active part in politics aside from voting.

Albert J. Sneyd grew to manhood on the home farm, aiding his father in its operation and attended the public schools of Ashkum. On leaving the farm in 1893 he came to Chatsworth, where, in partnership with Charles Burns, he embarked in the hardware business, purchasing the stock of E. A. Jackson. Under the firm name of Sneyd & Burns they successfully carried on business for six years, during which time they enlarged their stock, as well as increased the volume of trade. In the spring of 1899 Mr. Sneyd sold his interest to Mr. Burns, who still continues the business, and for a year lived retired, but in the spring of 1900 he purchased a lot, upon which he erected a commodious warehouse and stocked it with a full line of buggies, wagons, planters, and in fact all kinds of heavy and light farm machinery and implements. He has made a decided success for the first season's venture in the new enterprise, for, being among the well-known and reliable business men of the town, he has secured a liberal share of the public patronage. He not only owns his present place of business, but has a half interest in the building where he was formerly engaged in the hardware trade, his home property in Chatsworth and a fine farm of one hundred and ten acres on sections 16 and 17, Ashkum township, Iroquois county, which was part of the old homestead.

On the 23d of May, 1894, Mr. Sneyd was united in marriage with Miss Annie E. Phillips, who was born in Chebanse, Illinois, October 1, 1869, a daughter of Thomas and Kate (McGlone) Phillips. Her father is now deceased, but her mother is still living and resides on the old home farm near Ashkum. To Mr. and Mrs. Sneyd have been born two children: Francis and Leo Albert, bright children, who are the joy of the home. The parents are both members of the Catholic church and Mr. Sneyd is also a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 1829, of Chatsworth. Politically he affiliates with the Democratic party. He is widely and favorably known and in social as well as business circles stands deservedly high.

WILLIAM D. McMILLAN.

William D. McMillan, the well-known Forrest, Illinois, and a member of the village board of trustees, is a native of Livingston county, born in Rooks Creek township October 5, 1846, and is a son of William and grandson of Andrew McMillan. The father was born in Jonesville, Lee county, Virginia, September 27, 1802, and there grew to manhood upon his father's farm. He came to Livingston county, Illinois, as early as 1834, and located in Rooks Creek township, when the Indians were still living in this region. Here he took up a large tract of government land, about four hundred acres, which he improved, retaining most of it until his death. He became one of the most prominent and influential citizens of his community, in politics was first a Whig and later a Democrat, and held the office of justice of the peace from the earliest

recollection of our subject. In 1838 he married Eliza Breckenridge, a daughter of Robert Breckenridge, who was also one of the pioneers and land holders of Rooks Creek township, having come here from near Sardinia, Brown county, Ohio, about the same time as Mr. McMillan. By this marriage were born four children, three of whom are still living, one of these being our subject. The mother, who was a member of the Methodist church, died in 1849, and the father subsequently married her sister, Mrs. Anna Anderson. He died in June, 1864, honored and respected by all who knew him.

The early education of William D. McMillan was acquired in the common schools of Rooks Creek township, and he remained at home until his father's death. Desiring a better education he sold forty acres of the home farm, and after giving his mother her dowry used the remainder in paying his expenses at Eureka College. Having thus secured a good practical education he returned home and engaged in farming until 1870, when he went to Pontiac. The following year he commenced learning photography and devoted his attention to that art until 1874, when he entered the service of the United States Express Company at Pontiac. A year later he was transferred to Springfield, and in 1880 was made express messenger on the Forrest and Streator train of the Wabash Railroad. On the 1st of June, 1893, he was appointed agent at Forrest, where the company does a large business, as the town has two lines of railroad. The position is therefore one of much responsibility, and he discharges his duties in a most creditable and satisfactory manner.

On the 8th of April, 1876, Mr. McMillan married Miss Laura Harper, of Livingston county, who was born in Waynestown, Indiana, a daughter of John Harper, an old resident here, who settled in this county when Mrs. McMillan was only six years old. By this union have been born five children: Ira Douglas (deceased), Frederick W., Artie Ray (deceased), Leslie C. and Edna E. The parents are both members of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which Mr. McMillan is now serving as steward. He cast his first vote for the Democratic party, but since then has been a stanch Republican, though he has taken no active part in political affairs. While a resident of Rooks Creek township he filled the office of collector, and without his knowledge he was nominated as a member of the city council on the no-license board in 1899 and elected by a good majority, though he made no effort to secure the office. During his term the board has done considerable toward street improvements, which have greatly pleased the people of the town. Fraternally Mr. McMillan is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

JOHN ELLINGER.

John Ellinger, a prominent farmer of section 35, Pontiac township, Livingston county, comes from the fatherland, and the strongest and mostcreditable characteristics of the eutonic race have been marked elements in his life and have enabled him to win success in the face of opposing circumstances. He possesses the energy and determination which mark the people of Germany, and by the exercise of his powers has steadily progressed, and has not only won a handsome competence but has com-

manded universal respect by his straightforward business methods.

Mr. Ellinger was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, October 16, 1849, a son of George and Carrie D. (Keibler) Ellinger, life-long residents of that place and active members of the Lutheran church. The father was a farmer and land owner and was one of the highly respected men of his community. He died in 1893, the mother about eight years before.

Our subject obtained a good practical education in the public schools of his native land, and at the age of fifteen went into the village of Oppenweiler, which was near his father's home, devoting a year and nine months to learning the baker's trade. Not liking the business, he decided to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic, and celebrated the seventeenth anniversary of his birth on board a vessel bound for America. His ticket took him to Washington, Illinois, where he borrowed three dollars with which to proceed to Peoria, from a fellow passenger, his own means being exhausted by this time. He secured work on a farm near that city, where he remained for some time, and with his employer went to Peoria, working for him two years, but his wages were never paid for the last six months. Securing an old horse he again started for the country and after spending a few weeks in El Paso, he hired out to a farmer northwest of that place for one year. Later, being refused the privilege of attending church, he entered the employ of a neighbor, for whom he worked until fall. He was employed in that neighborhood for five years during which time he managed to save enough money to start in life for himself, renting eighty acres of land in Ford county for two years.

In the meantime Mr. Ellinger was married, July 27, 1870, to Miss Sophia Mueller, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of George Mueller, who with his family moved from that state to Indiana and later to Illinois. To our subject and wife have been born twelve children, namely: Carrie, now the wife of John Schaffer of Eppards Point township, Livingston county; Lizzie, wife of William Schaffer, of the same township; George, who married Maggie Young, and also lives in Eppards Point township; John, who married Alta Porter and resides in Pontiac; Emma, wife of Edward Greidner of that city; Katie, William, Christian, Arthur, Albert, Frank and Robert, all at home.

In 1872 Mr. Ellinger came to Livingston county and successfully engaged in farming upon rented land in Saunemin township two years, at the end of which time he purchased eighty acres of land in that township, but hard times coming on, he lost it, and again rented a number of years, one year being spent in Sullivan township, and ten on one farm in Owego township. Subsequently he bought eighty acres in Charlotte township, which he soon sold to advantage, and then came to Pontiac township, where he rented a half-section of land one year. It being sold at that time he had to move, and in 1893 he purchased his present fine farm of two hundred and forty acres, one and a half miles from Pontiac, for which he paid ninety-two dollars and a half per acre. It is one of the finest and most productive farms in the county, and is well improved with good buildings. In connection with general farming, Mr. Ellinger gives considerable attention to the raising of cattle and hogs. While a resident of Owego township he bought a half-

section of land in Minnesota, for which he paid cash, and which he held until 1899.

In 1899 Mr. Ellinger returned to his old home in Germany to visit his father. Since the age of nineteen years he has been a member of the Evangelical church, and he and his family are now connected with the church at Eppards Point. He is a Republican in politics but has never been an aspirant for office, though he served as school director three years.

CHARLES T. BURNS.

Charles T. Burns, who is engaged in the hardware business in Chatsworth, Livingston county, has been one of the leading business men of the city since 1893. He commenced business as a junior member of the firm of Sneyd & Burns, November 29, 1893, and that relation was continued until 1899, when his brother, Thomas, purchased the interest of Mr. Sneyd, and the business has since been conducted under the firm name of Burns Brothers.

Charles T. Burns was born in Chicago, Illinois, June 11, 1863, and is the son of Thomas and Eliza (Gallagher) Burns, both of whom were born in Ireland, and both coming to this country in childhood, the former locating in Boston, Massachusetts, and the latter in Chicago, Illinois. In his youth Thomas Burns learned the ship carpenter's trade, which he followed for some years, and until coming west and locating in Chicago, where his marriage with Miss Gallagher was celebrated. He is now engaged in farming in Iroquois county, Illinois, which has been his home for some years, and where he owns a farm of two hundred acres of well improved land. In his family were nine children: Charles T., the subject of this sketch; James, living on a farm in Iroquois county; Anna, living at home; Mary, who resides in Chicago; Thomas, now in partnership with our subject; Kate, wife of O. Ergang, who is in the postal service in Chicago, which is their home; Walter, in a grain office in Ashkum, Illinois; Terrence and William, at home with their father. The mother of these children died in 1886. She was a devout member of the Catholic church, in which faith she died.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood on the farm in Iroquois county, and in its public schools received his education, which was supplemented by one term in the commercial department of the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Indiana. He remained at home until he came to Chatsworth in 1893 and embarked in his present business. Success has crowned his efforts, and in addition to his stock of hardware, paints, oils, etc., he owns residence property in the city and an interest in the store building occupied by himself and brother. The firm carry a fine stock of goods and have an excellent trade, which extends many miles into the surrounding country.

In politics Mr. Burns is a Democrat in national affairs, but in local matters he votes for the best man for the office regardless of party ties. By his fellow citizens he has been honored with local office, having served as alderman for five successive years. As a member of the board he has shown himself a progressive citizen, advocating every measure proposed that seemed beneficial to the best interests of the place. He was interested in the putting in of brick walks, the building of the bell tower, the improvement of the water works, and the erection of the new brick city hall. He is chairman of the fire

and water committees and a member of the finance committee and other committees. He is also a member of the volunteer fire company.

Fraternally Mr. Burns is a member of Camp No. 1829, Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously he is a member of the Catholic church. As a citizen he is enterprising and loyal to his adopted city and county.

CAPTAIN HENRY FOX.

Captain Henry Fox, a gallant and fearless officer of the civil war, and now a prominent citizen of Dwight, Illinois, was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, October 4, 1833. He was educated in a college near Stuttgart, taking a literary course, and on leaving school entered a general mercantile establishment, where he served a three-years' apprenticeship and was then granted a diploma. He remained with that firm two years longer and then entered the employ of a commission house, where he continued to work until his emigration to the United States in 1854, landing in New York city on the day he attained his majority.

Business being dull there, Mr. Fox proceeded to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he clerked in a wholesale dry-goods house for two years, and while there served as second lieutenant in the Wisconsin Militia. His company was sent to Madison on the installation of a new governor, in January, 1856, they having much the same trouble as has recently been experienced in Kentucky. The incumbent of the office denied the validity of the claimant and who had the certificate of the canvassing board and refused to give up the office. This was the Bashford and Barstow contest which created great excitement throughout the country at the time. In September, 1856, Mr. Fox went to St. Louis, where he engaged in clerking for a short time, and then removed to Mt. Pulaski, Logan county, Illinois, where he was employed in the general store of John Mayer, who was engaged in business there for many years, and was one of the first settlers of Logan county. While there Mr. Fox married his employer's daughter, Miss Magdalene Mayer, September 10, 1857. After his marriage he was engaged in business for himself at Mt. Pulaski a short time, but in the spring of 1861 removed to Lincoln, Illinois, where he was living at the outbreak of the civil war.

In August, 1862, Mr. Fox enlisted as sergeant in Company H, One Hnudred and Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in at Lincoln, being ordered to Jackson, Tennessee, in September. In reference to his service we quote the following from the Chicago Inter-Ocean: "A Soldier's Brave Deed. In the later part of December, 1862, when a small detachment of soldiers was scattered along the line of the railroad from Columbus, Kentucky, to Holly Springs, Mississippi, guarding the bridges and trestle work, the following incident took place, which for cool courage excelled anything that came to my attention during my three years' service. After the capture of Holly Springs, Mississippi, General Forrest's cavalry made a raid northward upon this line of railroad and captured every station between Jackson, Tennessee, and Columbus, Kentucky, exceut a small detachment of about seventy-five men who were guarding the bridge and the long trestle work across the Obion river about ten

HENRY FOX.

miles north of Jackson. This detachment was composed of parts of Companies H and I, One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Infantry, and commanded by Captain P. W. Harts, now of Springfield, Illinois, and Captain John Shockey, now of Pappinsville, Missouri. After the attack on Jackson and the capture of Colonel Ingersoll and a part of the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, a detachment of some five hundred of Forrest's cavalry, with two pieces of artillery, was sent by General Forrest against this handful of men guarding the Obion bridge. The Federal guard had hastily made rude breastworks directly under the bridge, determined to make the best possible defense. Promptly at 1 o'clock on December 23, before the breastworks were completed, this station north of the river were surrounded by these five hundred rebel cavalry, who, after making a great display on horseback, riding round in a circle three or four times, thus making believe that the whole of Forrest's cavalry was present, dismounted and made a desperate effort to capture the guard and destroy the bridge and trestle-works in order to break the railroad communication with Jackson, Tennessee. Here the unequal battle raged until the middle of the afternoon, the shrieking shells and the swishing bullets crashed through the heavy bridge timbers with which the breastworks were made. Capture seemed inevitable. Reinforcements could only be hoped for from Jackson. It was decided that some one should venture to leave the fort, climb the open trestle some fifteen feet high and run over this, about one hundred and twenty rods, then through the timber toward Jackson, to secure reinforcements. This task was solicited by Sergeant Henry Fox, of Company H. Hand over hand he gained the top of the bridge, and then with a regular double-quick step, he ran from tie to tie across this dreadful line, the enemy from both sides of the road shooting at him, but while his clothes bore ample evidence of the danger he had run, he was untouched. Fortunately, the fire from the breastworks was too dangerous to permit the enemy to bring their artillery through the woods within close range of the fort and from the distance the heavy timber obstructed the effectiveness of the shot and shell. The station was not captured, the bridge was saved, reinforcements arrived after dark, and after the enemy had withdrawn and left their dead in the farmhouse on the hill. Sergeant Fox, after calling for reinforcements, returned alone, making the run of nine miles in one hour and forty minutes." This article was written and signed by David Harts, captain of Company C, One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. For this gallant service our subject received a medal from congress with the following inscription: "The congress of the United States to Serg't Henry Fox, Company H, One Hundred and Sixth Illinois Infantry, for gallantry near Jackson, Tennessee, December 23, 1862." In January, 1863, he was detailed as recorder of military commission at Memphis, and in May was appointed by General Hurlbut as captain of the Fifty-ninth Regiment United States Colored Troops, being mustered in as such June 1, 1863. He participated in the battles of Parker's Cross Road, Guntown and Tupolo, and went on to the expedition of Oxford. In April, 1865, he was detailed as acting assistant inspector general of post and defenses at Memphis, Tennessee, and was on the staff of Brevet Major-General A. L. Chetlain. In July, 1865, he was detailed on the staff of Major-General

John E. Smith, United States Army, in the same capacity, for the district of Tennessee, and was finally mustered out on the last day of January, 1866.

Returning to his home in Lincoln, Illinois, Captain Fox worked in the lumber office of Buffham & Company for a year and a half, then for Elliott & Company in the same business until New Year's Day, 1869. By his doctor's advice, he then removed to a farm in Logan county, which he had purchased about a year previous, but as his health did not improve, in May, 1874, he moved to Dwight, Illinois, where he has since had charge of William Ccully's lands, consisting of several thousand acres, which he has managed in a most creditable and satisfactory manner.

To the Captain and his wife were born eight children, namely: Frederick W., who died in February, 1897, at the age of forty years, leaving a widow and two children; Henry, who has charge of a large tract of land for Mr. Scully in Nelson, Nebraska; Anna E., wife of Benjamin Showwalter, of Davenport, Nebraska; Lydia L., who is teaching in the public schools of Dwight; Louis E., a resident of Kansas City, Missouri; Susan M., who is an artist of superior ability and is now giving painting lessons in Dwight and neighboring cities; Pauline E., bookkeeper and cashier for Miller Brothers, at Dwight; and Daniel S. Fox, who was born in Dwight, Illinois, January 27, 1876, and was educated in the city and high school. He was then with his father until the time of his enlistment, April 26, 1898, in Company A, Third Illinois Cavalry, for a term of two years. The regiment was organized at Springfield, Illinois, from which place it was sent to Chickamauga, where, on the 6th of July, 1898, he was appointed corporal. From Chickamauga the regiment was sent to Porto Rico with Major-General Brooks, it being his guard. With his regiment Daniel S. remained until after the close of hostilities, when it returned, and he was honorably discharged at Streator, Illinois, January 20, 1899, and returned to his home, and is assisting his father in the business. The mother of these children died October 7, 1879, and was buried in Dwight. Captain Fox was again married, October 28, 1880, his second union being with Miss Hattie A. Chamberlain, who was born near Syracuse, New York, and came to Illinois in 1873. Her father, William Chamberlain, never came west. She has proved a true helpmeet to her husband and a devoted mother to his children, who were young when she married him.

Captain Fox is a prominent member of several civic societies, including Livingston Lodge, No. 371, F. & A. M.; Wilmington Chapter, No. 142, R. A. M.; Streator Council, R. & S. M.; Blaney Commandery, No. 5, K. T., of Morris, Illinois; Dwight Lodge, No. 513, and Dwight Encampment, No. 126, I. O. O. F., of which fraternity he has been a member for forty-two years. In the subordinate lodge he has served as noble grand, and is now past chief patriarch of the Encampment. He is also an honored member and past commander of Dwight Post, No. 626, G. A. R., and a member of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. Politically he is a stanch Republican, but at local elections, when no issue is involved, he votes independent of party lines. He has ever taken an active and prominent part in local politics, and has been a member of the town board four times and served as mayor of Dwight two terms. He

has ever manifested the same loyalty in days of peace as in time of war, and by all who know him is held in high regard.

SAMUEL A. LEISEROWITZ.

Samuel A. Leiserowitz, a prominent citizen of Cullom, and a member of the well-known firm of Leiserowitz Brothers, general merchants of Cullom, Herscher and Cabery, Illinois, was born in Sarle, State of Korne, Russia, June 21, 1861. His father, Mendel Leiserowitz, a rabbi and school teacher of that country, has been active in church work since seventeen years of age and for the past fifty-three years has engaged in preaching and school teaching. He is very well educated and is a well known expounder of the Hebrew faith. He has preached in Sarle, Moscow, and many smaller places in Russia, and while visiting in this country preached and taught school in South Chicago for four years. His father, Moses Leiserowitz, was also a rabbi and school teacher, and died while reading the Bible at his home in Yurgenborg, Russia, at the age of eighty-three years. To the parents of our subject were born eleven children, six of whom are living, and one of the number is still living in Russia taking care of the parents. Those in America are: Tane L., who is engaged in general mercantile business in Kempton, Illinois; L. L., who is engaged in the painting business in Chicago; Samuel A., our subject; Wolf, partner of our subject and a resident of Herscher, Illinois; and Simon, who conducts the store for his brothers at Cabery.

Samuel A. Leiserowitz attended school in his native land, but his early education has been greatly supplemented by reading and observation in later years. At the age of twelve years he began his business career, being employed in the office of a dealer in grain and all kinds of produce until he attained his majority. He then entered the Russian army, December 1, 1881, and served until August 1, 1886. He was first a member of the Twentieth Foot Division, but on the 1st of August, 1882, was transferred to the brass band, his instrument being a French horn. As a common soldier he recieved ninety cents pay every four months or two dollars and seventy cents per year, but being promoted to what corresponds to our corporal his salary was raised to four dollars per year. In giving a description of the Russian army Mr. Leiserowitz says: "Besides their high salary the soldiers were given their clothes, consisting of one overcoat made of material resembling horse blankets, an under coat of a finer grade of goods, a cap and trousers made of the same material. These were supposed to last two years with exception of the trousers which were worn a year. Vests were not worn in the service. Each soldier received a pair and a half of leather boots each year, the leggings of the first pair doing service for the second. For under and over wear linen similar to course towling was furnished. For hosiery the same kind of goods was used, and instead of being drawn on the feet was wrapped around. Mittens and neckties were of black blanket goods, and the ties were worn as Catholic priests wear them. Out of their salaries the soldiers have to pay for making their boots and underwear, buying blackening for shoes and belts and oil for guns. Each are given seventy cents extra for incidentals, but this with their salary does not half cover

their expenses. They are given three pounds of rye bread a day and six cents in money to pay for other food, but when a company is stationed at one place the money goes into the general fund for cooking purposes, amounting to six dollars for one hundred men per day. Each soldier gets about a half pound of beef and soup, which is made of barley broken up and boiled with the meat. This they have for dinner and supper, while for breakfast they have only bread, salt and water—plenty of water but not always salt. A mess of ten or fifteen men are given a wooden pail in which the soup is served. They carry a red wooden spoon in their boot leg and with these each dip into the bucket as they have no other dishes, knives or forks. After the meal however, they are generally as happy as larks, singing and dancing. The higher officers are treated as ours are.

When his term of service expired, Mr. Liserowitz received a recommndation from his general testifying to his conduct, temperate habits, and general behavior and that should he again desire to enter the army he was to be taken back at one hundred and twenty dollars per year. Returning to his home, he remained there until January 1, 1887, when he sailed from Hamburg by way of Liverpool for New York. He proceeded at once to Chicago and on the train met a conductor, who was a relative of his father and who took charge of him, seeing that he got to his brother all right. He remained about twenty-four hours in Chicago. His money by this time was exhausted but he finally found a relative who let him have enough to go to Danforth, Illinois, where his brothers Wolf and Tane were then living. A week later the brother Wolf ordered for him a stock of goods amounting to little over forty-nine dollars, and with this he started out as a peddler with his pack upon his back. His brother drove a team and went a couple of miles ahead toward Cullom their destination. Our subject met with most excellent success from the start and at the end of three weeks was able to buy a horse from Frank Drendel, living east of Cullom, for which he paid eighteen dollars, to be taken out in trade. He then went to Danforth where his brother Tane was living and bought a wagon. With horse and wagon he traveled for one year, and at the end of that time he and his brother Tane bought property in Cullom, where they successfully conducted a pool and billard hall one year. On selling out, in 1889, he and his brother Wolf started a store with a small stock of goods costing about two thousand dollars, and later took in another partner B. Brode, who was a member of the firm for about a year, but this venture did not prove a success, as three families could not live off the profits of the small store. The brother then went to Herscher, where he has since prospered, but our subject remained in Cullom, where he rented a building of J. W. White for two years, and then of Walter Rider of Saunemin for five years, but at the end of five months he purchased the latter, which he subsquently enlarged. Later he bought a house and lot adjoining, sold the house and moved the oldest store, and erected a double store building, 40x120 feet, and half of which is two stories in height, the other one story. He has steadily prospered and has never yet had occasion to regret his emigration to the new world. In March, 1899, he and his brother Wolf formed a partnership, and under the firm name of Leiserowitz Brothers have the largest stores at Cullom and Herscher, and also

have a good store in Caberry, the building also being owned by them. To-day they are numbered among the most successful and progressive business men of this section. The Cullom store is in use as a department store, having added hardware, paints, wall paper and undertaking in addition to the general line handled before. There is a special department of silverware, jewelry, clocks and watches. A watchmaker of thirty years experience, Mr. Lawrence Holland, is in charge of this department. He for the past twelve years has been a resident of Cullom.

In August, 1886, Mr. Leiserowitz married Miss Golda S. Cohn, and to them were born seven children, but the three oldest died in infancy. The others, Joseph, Jane, Isadore and Esther, are all attending school. In politics Mr. Leiserowitz is a Republican, and in his social relations is a member of Saunemin Lodge, No. 728, I. O. O. F., and is a charter member of Star Camp, No. 1886, M. W. A. of Cullom.

SHERMAN H. JOHNSON.

Sherman H. Johnson, who is prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Germanville township, Livingston county, owns and operates a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 15. The neat and thrifty appearance of the place testifies to his careful supervision, and shows him to be not only a thorough and skillful farmer, but also a man of good business abitity.

Mr. Johnson was born in the town of Peru, Clinton county, New York, September 13, 1847, a son of Jeremiah and Harriet (Bridges) Johnson. The father was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and resided there for some years. He enlisted in the war of 1812, and served for five years under General Scott, coming out of the service as first lieutenant. After receiving his discharge at Plattsburg, New York, he remained at that place and engaged in the lumber business, which he carried on until sixty-eight years of age, when meeting with loss from fire, he retired from active business. He died in 1872, at the age of ninety-two years, his wife in the same year at the age of eighty-two. In their family were twelve children, eight of whom are still living. Our subject is the youngest son, but has two younger sisters.

In the common schools of his birthplace Sherman H. Johnson acquired his education, and remained at home until eighteen years of age, when, in 1865, he came to Livingston county, Illinois. After spending a few months in Belle Prairie township, however, he went to Minnesota, where he worked by the month two years, and then returned to this county, being engaged in farming upon rented land in Belle Prairie township for a number of years. Subsequently he leased a farm in McLean county, which he afterward bought, and on selling that property in 1876 went to Bates county, Missouri, where he followed farming one year. Returning to Belle Prairie township, Livingston county, he rented a farm for three years, and then moved to Forrest township, where he leased a half section of land for the same length of time. During the following three years we again find him in Belle Prairie township, and in 1888 he located upon his present farm in Germanville township. He purchased two hundred and eighty acres, and two years later sold one hundred and

sixty acres to Henry Nettleton, but still owns the remainder, which was only partially improved when it came into his possession, but he has since erected a large and substantial barn, improved the house, and tiled the land, placing it under excellent cultivation. In connection with general farming he raises considerable stock, including short-horn cattle and Poland China hogs.

On the 7th of October, 1869, in Belle Prairie township, Mr. Johnson led to the marriage altar Miss Emeline Alford, a daughter of Wesly J. and Emiline C. (Randall) Alford. The father was born in Vermont, but when a small child moved with his parents to New York state, where he continued to make his home until Mrs Johnson was two years old, and then brought his family to Illinois, locating in Kendall county, where he engaged in farming for some time, but is now living a retired life in Rose Lawn, Indiana. He was a very prosperous man and highly respected. His wife died six years ago, leaving a family of seven children, of whom Mrs. Johnson is the fifth in order of birth. Ten children have been born to our subject and his wife, namely: William H., a well-driller of Strawn, who married Clara Johnson and has four children, Myrtle, Pearl, Elmer and Clarence Sherman; Cornelia, wife of William Day, a farmer of Ford county, Illinois, by whom she has five children, Myron William, Sarah, Annie and Hershal A.; Lorenzo, Hannah and Bertha, all at home; Myron, who died at the age of sixteen years; Myra, who died in Missouri, at the age of three years; and three, who died in infancy.

Mr. Johnson is a supporter of the Republican party, and as a public-spirited and progressive citizen is an advocate of those enterprises that tend toward public development. He filled the office of school director during the first seven years of his residence in Germanville township, and has efficiently served in the same capacity for the last three years, during which time he has done much toward bettering the schools in his locality. He is an active member of the Methodist church, in which he served as deacon four years.

JAMES J. BROADHEAD.

James J. Broadhead, a prominent representative of the business interests of Forrest is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred near Mackinaw, September 22, 1857. His father, Edward Broadhead, was born July 2, 1827, in Manchester, England, where he grew to manhood and learned the trade of a machinist. There he was married, March 6, 1847, to Miss Nancy McDonald, also a native of Manchester, and in 1855 they came to the United States, locating first in Tazewell county, Illinois, where he found employment on a farm. In 1859 he settled near Danvers, McLean county, and commenced farming on his own account. In 1867 he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land in Forrest township, Livingston county, for which he paid fifteen dollars per acre, and for which he was later offered one hundred dollars per acre. He made all of the improvements upon the place, erecting a good set of farm buildings, tiling the land and placing it under excellent cultivation, and dividing it into fields of sufficient size by good hedge fences. He also planted trees and ornamental shrubs, and made his farm one of the best in the locality. He continued to actively engage in agricultural pursuits until six or

seven years before his death, when he moved to Forrest and lived retired, dying there March 8, 1896. He purchased a good residence in that town, which is now the home of his widow. On coming to this country he was in very limited circumstances and his success that he achieved in life was due entirely to his well-directed labors. Politically he was always identified with the Republican party, and religiously was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which his wife also belongs. To them were born eight children, seven of whom are now living, namely: William, a resident of Normal, Illinois; John, of Chatsworth; Mary J. resides with her mother; James J., our subject; George H., of Indiana; Cornelia, wife of W. B. Moyer, of Galva, Illinois; and Lovina, wife of J. L. Moyer, of Forrest.

The subject of this review was a lad of ten years when the family came to Livingston county, and he attended both the country schools and those of Forrest. On the home farm he acquired an excellent knowledge of agriculture, and on starting out in life for himself at the age of twenty-one years commenced farming, which occupation he followed with good success until his removal to Forrest, in 1897. He had previously spent two winters in town, those of 1893 and 1894. He now conducts the only real estate office in the place, and handles a large amount of city and farm property. He is also engaged in merchandising and the fire and life insurance business, and is a director of the Peoria Eastern Telephone Company, of which he was one of the original incorporators and was an active member of the company when the lines were put in operation. As a business man he is reliable, energetic and progressive, and generally carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes.

On the 20th of March, 1884, Mr. Broadhead was united in marriage with Miss Ella Rose, of Fairbury, a daughter of I. V. Rose, a farmer of Indian Grove township, Livingston county, and to them have been born two children; Ralph R. and Ray V. The family have a pleasant home in Forrest and attend the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mrs. Broadhead is a member. Socially Mr. Broadhead is connected with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of Amreica, and the Court of Honor, and is now keeper of records and seals in the first named order. Since attaining his majority he has affiliated with the Republican party, and although he has never aspired to office he was elected trustee of the village, taking his seat May 1, 1900. He is public-spirited and progressive and as a citizen ever stands ready to discharge any duty devolving upon him.

THRONE & HATFIELD.

Throne & Hatfield is the name of a well-known firm of Cullom, Illinois, composed of Charles H. Throne and George H. Hatfield, two of the most enterprising and progressive business men of that town. They are successfully engaged in the livery business and also have control of the dray line.

Mr. Throne is a native of Livingston county, born in Sullivan township, September 23, 1876, and is a son of W. H. and Laura E. (Edwards) Throne, who were also born in this state. The father, who is a farmer by occupation, lived in Sullivan township many years, but for the past eighteen years has made his home in Cullom.

His children are: Maggie, wife of B. A. Park, of Fisher, Illinois; Calvin, a general merchant of McCook, Nebraska; Bertha, wife of S. M. Boeman, of Cullom, Illinois; Nellie, wife of Frank Copp, of Fisher; Charles H., our subject; and Reta, at home.

Mr. Throne was educated in the schools of Cullom, and at the age of thirteen years began his business career as clerk in the general store of Enos Flessner, of that place, remaining with him six years, and with the firm of Flessner & Amachee four years. In 1896, in connection with John Tyrrell, he purchased the livery stable and dray line of John Fritzon, and at the end of four months George H. Hatfield purchased Mr. Tyrrell's interest in the business, which has since been successfully conducted under the firm name of Throne & Hatfield. In 1898 Mr. Throne and B. A. Park purchased a livery and sale stable in Fisher, Illinois, which they carried on together until the spring of 1900, when our subject sold out to his partner. During all this time Mr. Throne was still employed in the mercantile establishment of Flessner & Amachee, but in March, 1900, concluded to give his whole time and attention to the livery and dray business, which he has since done.

On the 6th of September, 1899, Mr. Throne married Miss Jennie Kewley, a native of Ford county, Illinois, and daughter of Thomas Kewley, one of its old settlers. She is second in order of birth in a family of five children. Politically Mr. Throne is a Republican, and socially is a member of Cullom Camp, No. 1886, M. W. A.

Mr. Hatfield, the junior member of the firm, was born in Mona township, Ford county, Illinois, September 12, 1876, a son of Jesse S. and Sarah (Cart) Hatfield, natives of Indiana. The father carried on blacksmithing in Ford county until 1880, when he removed with his family to Cullom, where he opened a shop and has since conducted a successful business. He is a veteran of the Civil war. In his political views he is a Democrat. He has two children: George H., our subject; and Edward, at home with his parents.

George H. Hatfield received his education in the public schools of Cullom. When about twenty-one years of age he embarked in the livery business with Mr. Throne and has since devoted his energies to that enterprise. They are wide-awake business men of known reliability, and are meeting with well-deserved success. Mr. Hatfield is a Republican in politics, and is an active member of Star Camp, No. 1886, M. W. A., of Cullom, and Livingston County Lodge, No. 264, K. P., of Chatsworth.

ALPHA BAKER.

Alpha Baker, an honored and highly respected citizen of Dwight, Illinois, who is now living a retired life, was born in Oneida county, New York, September 19, 1831, and is a son of Samuel A. and Sophia (Porter) Baker, who spent their entire lives in that county, where the father cleared and improved a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres. He was a most progressive and enterprising man and an excellent judge of good stock, to the raising of which he devoted considerable attention. He died at about the age of sixty years, his wife at the age of seventy-seven. His father was Henry Baker, a ship carpenter in early life. Our subject is the second in order of birth in a family of three children. Ellis, the oldest,

A. BAKER.

MRS. A. BAKER.

now seventy-two years of age, followed farming, and is now living on his old home farm in New York state. Hope, the youngest, died in girlhood.

In the county of his nativity, Alpha Baker was reared and educated, and remianed under the parental roof until twenty-three years of age, when he went to Connecticut, working three years in Hartford and New Haven counties. At the end of that time he moved to Warren, Ohio, where he worked about a year at anything he could find to do, and then came to Illinois, stopping in Grundy county from 1856 until 1890. The winter of 1856-7 was spent in the lumber woods on the Eau Claire river, Wisconsin, but the following spring he returned to Grundy county, Illinois, where he worked by the month one year. He next rented a farm in Mazon township, which he operated three years, and then purchased a wild tract of one hundred and sixty acres, which he commenced immediately to improve and cultivate, erecting first a house, 22x22 feet in dimensions and containing three rooms.

Mr. Baker was married, September 25, 1861, to Miss Sarah J. Collar, a native of St. Lawrence county, New York, and a daughter of Lyman and Eliza Jane (Crabb) Collar, also natives of that state. The father engaged in farming and also followed the wagon-maker's trade in St. Lawrence county until Mrs. Baker was eight years of age, when he came to Illinois with his family, locating in Grundy county, when it contained only a few houses and these widely scattered. He took up a tract of government land, to which he later added by purchase. He lived to the advenced age of ninety years. In his family were ten children, of whom five died young, namely: Addison, Jessie, Reuben, Frank and Harriet. Those living are Norman, a resident of Iowa; George, of Joliet, Illinois; Alfred, of Iowa; Malinda, of Mazon township, Grundy county, Illinois; and Sarah J., wife of our subject. Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Baker, but four died in infancy. The others are Frank, who is now engaged in farming in Storm Lake, Iowa; Emery, a stock raiser of Lincoln county, Nebraska; Stella and Ada Sigourney, at home.

After his marriage Mr. Baker took up his residence upon the farm which he had previously purchased, and five years later added to it a tract of eighty acres and afterward one hundred and twenty-six acres more. His landed possessions in Grundy county now aggregate six hundred and sixty-two acres, consisting of two hundred and forty acres on section 12 and one hundred and sixty acres on section 24, Highland township; and one hundred and twenty-six on section 7, and one hundred and thirty-six acres on section 19, Goodform township. He also owns one hundred and ninety acres of improved land in York county, Nebraska, and ten lots in Dwight. In connection with general farming he always engaged in stock raising, but since February, 1890, he has made his home in Dwight and lived retired, laying aside all business cares.

Fraternally Mr. Baker is a member of Verona Lodge, No. 757, F. & A. M., of Verona, in which he has held office. He is idependent in politics, voting for the man whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party lines. He efficiently served as commissioner of highways for two terms of three years each and put up the first iron bridges and stone abutments

in Highland township during his term. For a number of years he and his wife have traveled in the west quite extensively, and can now take life easy after their early years of toil and privations. As a business man Mr. Baker has been remarkably successful, and his career affords an excellent example to the young in that he commenced life without capital, but having a determination to succeed he industriously applied himself until he has acquired a handsome property, and has also won the confidence and respect of his fellow men in a marked degree.

JAMES BROWN.

The career of him whose name heads this review illustrates most forcibly the possibilities that are open to young men who possess sterling business qualifications. It proves that neither wealth or the assistance of influential friends at the outset of his career are necessary to place him on the road to success. It also proves that ambition, perseverance, steadfast purpose and indefatigable industry, combined with sound business principles will be rewarded, and that true success follows individual effort only. For many years Mr. Brown was actively identified with the agricultural and stock raising interests of Livingston county, but is now living a retired life in Dwight, having accumulated a handsome competence through his own well directed efforts.

He was born in Oneida county, New York, September 14, 1828, a son of David and Sophia (Mumford) Brown, the former a native of Scotland, the latter of Connecticut. When David Brown was ten years of age he was brought to America by his father, David Brown, Sr., a stocking weaver by trade, who settled in Herkimer county, New York, and in the midst of the forest cleared and developed a farm of one hundred acres, upon which he set out one of the finest orchards in the country. In those early days it often happened that he sold his best apples for six cents a bushel and farmers would come from miles around to get them. He also owned and operated a cider mill, manufacturing from two to three hundred barrels of cider in one season. He died at the age of sixty-six years, his wife at the age of eighty. In their family were twelve children. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Captain William Mumford, of the Revolutionary war, died at the age of about seventy, while his wife lived to the advanced age of ninety-five years. To them were also born twelve children. After reaching manhood, David Brown, Jr., also followed farming and became quite well-to-do, being able to give his children good educational advantages. He died at the age of ninety years, while the mother of our subject departed this life at the age of forty-four. For his second wife he married Cornelia Marvin, but had no children by that marriage. By the first union nine children were born, seven of whom reached years of maturity, namely: Charlotte, Jeanette, Mary, David, James, John and Elizabeth. All are living with the exception of Jeanette, and all are residents of New York state except our subject.

During his boyhood James Brown attended the public schools of his native county until fifteen years of age, when he went to live with his uncle, James Brown, a lawyer of Oswego, New York, who sent him to school and also assisted him in his algebra, geometry, trigonometry, philosophy and as

tronomy at home during the evenings, in this way acquiring a good education. He was a student at the Whitesboro Academy, Utica, New York, for a time, and after leaving that institution taught school for six winters, while through the summer months he engaged in farming.

At the end of that time Mr. Brown had saved one thousand dollars, which he invested in cattle, and for five years was successfully engaged in the butcher business. He then went to Wayne county, New York, where he bought some dairy stock, which he shipped to Herkimer county, and from that time on was extensively interested in the stock business, traveling all over western New York and Canada buying dairy stock most of the time and shipping the same to every station from Buffalo and Erie.

Coming to Livingston county, Illinois, in 1867, Mr. Brown purchased an improved farm of one hundred and eighty acres in Nevada township but did not locate thereon until 1869, and the first year raised nothing as the season was so wet. He had married July 27, 1866, Miss Eudora Wood, a native of Oswego county, New York, and a daughter of Moses Wood, one of the early settlers of that county and a successful farmer and cattle dealer. She was the second in order or birth in a family of twelve children, nine of whom grew to maturity. Mr. and Mrs. Brown had one son on coming to this county, and here the family circles was increased by the birth of seven other children. They were as follows: James, who died at the age of eighteen months; Eva, who married Wilbur Reed, a business man of Chicago, and has two children, James and George; Adelaide, at home; George, who is engaged in the stock business and resides at home; Mabel, who died at the age of three years; David, who died at the age of five years; Blanche, who is attending school in Dwight; and one who died in infancy.

When he located here Mr. Brown had about one hundred steers, and being unable to buy corn to feed them he went to Mason county, where he purchased five thousand bushels and shipped to his home. He continued to feed from one hundred and fifty to two hundred head of cattle each year until 1888, when he turned his attention to the raising of blooded stock, making a specialty of Norman draft horses, starting in this business with a capital of seven thousand dollars. He was interested in that enterprise until 1897, when he retired from business, having at that time ninety-five head of horses. He had previously given considerable attention to the raising of Poland China hogs, shipping about two hundred each year. He never sold any of the grain that he raised upon his land, but fed it all to his stock. He still owns eight hundred acres on sections 12, 13 and 24, Nevada township, and also has fourteen hundred acres of land in LaPorte county, Indiana, which he purchased in 1897, and which is partly improved and cultivated. He formerly owned lands in Kansas and Nebraska, but has since disposed of them. He has building property in Dwight, where he removed in November, 1899, and has since made his home. Starting out in life for himself with no capital his success seems almost phenomenal, but it is due to his own industry, enterprise, perseverance and good management.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, and he is identified with the Republican party, but has never taken an active part in politics aside from voting, preferring to give his entire time and attention to his business in-

terests. He and his wife have returned to New York on visits several times. After a useful and honorable career he can well afford to lay aside all business cares and live in ease and retirement, enjoying a well earned rest.

SAMUEL HOKE.

Samuel Hoke, deceased, was for many years prominently identified with the agricultural and business interests of Livingston county, and also took quite an active and influential part in public affairs, especially along educational lines. He became a resident of the county in 1859, coming here from Williamsburg, Blair county, Pennsylvania, then a part of Bedford county, and spent his last days in Odell.

Mr. Hoke was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, April 24, 1827, a son of Jacob and Margaret Rebecca Hoke, natives of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, whose parents came from Germany to America sometime during the eighteenth century. The father of our subject was a soldier of the war of 1812, and was a potter by trade, following that occupation in Gettysburg and McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania. Samuel was the youngest in his family of ten children, six sons and four daughters, of whom Mrs. Julia Phenice, of Tacoma, Washington, is now the only survivor.

In the common schools of his native county Samuel Hoke acquired his education and remained with his father until reaching man's estate. In early life he learned the trade of paper hanger and cabinet-maker in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and for eleven years worked at the same in that state. Taking an active part in political affairs, he sered as deputy sheriff of his native county, school director and trustee.

On the 18th of April, 1850, Mr. Hoke was united in marriage with Miss Laura M. Kenney, who was also born in Bedford county, November 22, 1831, a daughter of Alexander W. and Hannah E. (Harvey) Kenney. Her ancestry were residents of Pennsylvania for many generations, and were among the first settlers of Philadelphia. She is only one of a family of seven children now living.. Having received a good common school education, she successfully engaged in teaching for several years, and also served as assistant in the postoffice at Williamsburg, of which her father was postmaster for twenty-five consecutive years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hoke were born six sons and one daughter, namely: (1) Alexander R. took a course at the Wesleyan Normal School, of Bloomington, Illinois, and followed teaching for some time, but is now employed at the State Reformatory in Pontiac. He is married and has two children, Frank F. and Samuel L. (2) Hannah M. is the wife of J. W. Houchins, who was graduated at a college in Chicago and engaged in teaching during his active business career, but is now living retired in Odell. He owns a large amount of land in Illinois and Nebraska. (3) William E. is represented on another page of this volume. (4) Charles H., who is now living in Pontiac and serving as deputy sheriff of the county, was formerly engaged in the undertaking business in Odell for some time, and has filled the offices of constable and collector. He is married and has one daughter, Georgetta D. (5) George K., a farmer and liveryman, died at his home in Odell from the effects of injuries received in the collapse of a brick building during a cyclone in 1886.

He was married and had one daughter, Laura R. (6) Samuel L., deceased, was graduated at the Odell high school in 1885, and the Northern Illinois Normal School at Dixon in 1886, and followed teaching for several years, but was preparing to enter the ministry at the time of his death in 1887. (7) Frank Lincoln, who lives at home with his mother, has a good education and is a harness maker by trade. He took the government census in Odell in 1900.

After his marriage Mr. Hoke continued to reside in Pennsylvania until 1859, when he sold his property there and came to Dwight, Illinois, where he was engaged in the furniture and undertaking business for six months. He then located on the farm in Odell township, which he had previously purchased, it being a tract of eighty acres of wild prairie land, which now forms a part of Union township. He erected buildings thereon, made many other improvements, and added to his property until at one time he had five hundred acres of valuable land, nearly all improved by himself. During the civil war he was drafted but hired a substitute, and met with excellent success in his business affairs during that period. Although his early training fitted him for far different work, he prospered in his farming operations, being a man of sound judgment, observant and energetic. He made a specialty of the raising of horses and cattle, and was wonderfully successful.

Mr. Hoke was one of the men who laid out the school districts of Union township, and his wife was one of the first teachers, conducting a school in their own home, in addition to taking care of her three children. She taught six months for twenty dollars per month and with the money thus earned purchased their first horse. Theirs was the third school house of the township, and was built on land donated by Mr. Hoke for that purpose. He served as school director and school trustee for many years, and was one of the influential Republicans of his community, with which party his sons also affiliate. For over twenty years he successfully engaged in farming, and in 1880 moved to Odell, purchasing the house now occupied by his widow. He sold one hundred and sixty acres of his land and engaged in the loan and real estate business, still retaining two hundred and forty acres of the original farm, which is all under a high state of cultivation. At the age of eighteen years Mr. Hoke joined the Sons of Temperance, and was also a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Presbyterian church, though he later in life attended the Congregational church. He died at his home in Odell, May 23, 1898, honored and respected by all who knew him. His estimable wife still carries on the business left by him, and has met with excellent success in all her business ventures, being a woman of more than ordinary business ability and sound judgment.

JAY G. BARNHIZER, M. D.

Jay G. Barnhizer, M. D., a prominent and successful homeopathic physician of Forrest, Illinois, was born in Thornburg, Iowa, January 11, 1875, and is a son of Joseph and Samantha (Stout) Barnhizer. His paternal grandfather was Joseph Barnhizer, a native of Holland and a soldier of the Revolutionary war, who lived to the extreme old age of one hundred and six years. The father was born, reared and educated

in Pennsylvania, and in early life went to Ohio, where he married Samantha Stout, a native of Leipsic, that state, of which place her father, Elisha Stout, was one of the pioneers and a wealthy farmer and miller. He was also one of the early members and a minister of the Christian church. In 1874 the Doctor's parents moved to Coal Creek, Iowa. His father had been successfully engaged in milling in Ohio, and traded his milling property there for a half section of land near Thornburg, Iowa, which place he improved and operated with marked success until 1888, when he sold out and moved to California. After a short time spent in Pasadena, he returned to Iowa and purchased a farm adjoining Sigourney, in which town he lived until his death, which occurred April 9, 1898. He was quite wealthy, his capital being largely invested in stock. Religiously both he and his wife were prominent members and active workers in the Christian church, and practically building the church at Sigourney. She died December 9, 1893.

Dr. Barnhizer obtained a good common-school education, graduating at the high school of Sigourney in the class of 1891, and he then read medicine with Dr. F. A. Strawbridge, of that place in 1893 and 1894. He took his first course of lectures in the medical department of the Iowa State University at Iowa City, in the latter year, and was graduated at the Chicago Homeopathic Medical College in 1898, the same year taking a post graduate course at that institution. For a year he was engaged in practice at Gilman, Illinois, and in April, 1899, came to Forrest and opened an office. Although he has been here only a short time, he has already built up a large and constantly increasing practice, and the liberal patronage he enjoys attests his skill and ability in his chosen calling. He is examiner for the Court of Honor. On the 24th of October, 1899, Dr. Barnhizer married Miss Elizabeth D. Bond, of Sigourney, Iowa, a daughter of Lorenzo D. Bond, and the young couple have already made many warm friends in their adopted city.

WILLIAM T. GARDNER.

William T. Gardner, dealer in hardware, stoves, tinware, staple and fancy groceries, Chatsworth, Illinois, was born near Lawrence, Kansas, June 6, 1862, and is a son of John J. and Mary (Lambourne) Gardner, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of England. She is a sister of Mrs. D. B. Puffer, of Chatsworth. John P. Gardner emigrated from Scotland to Canada, where he resided for a time. He was a coal miner in the old country, and was engaged in that occupation for some years. From Canada he removed to Kansas where he engaged in farming, but later came to Illinois and located near Streator, where he remained a short time and then removed to Deer Park township, La Salle county; James, engaged in farming. He yet makes his home in that township, where he owns a farm of two hundred and fifty acres. His wife died in 1898. They were the parents of fourteen children, eight sons and six daughters, of whom two died in childhood, and Emma, in 1898, at the age of nineteen years. The living are Matthew T., a farmer of Pleasant Ridge township, Livingston county; William T., the subject of this sketch; Mary, wife of Emerson Calkins, of La Salle county; John, living in Iowa Falls,

Iowa; Jennie, wife of Thomas Nicholson, living in Iowa Falls, Iowa; Fred, also of Iowa Falls; Nellie, wife of L. Calkins, of Der Park township, La Salle county; James, of Vermillonville, La Salle county; Charlotte, wife of Roy Logan, of La Salle county; Sadie and George, residing at home with their father. In politics John P. Gardner is a Democrat, but has never sought or would serve in any official capacity. Religiously he is an Adventist. For several years he has been living a retired life in Vermillionville.

The subject of this sketch was but a small child when his parents removed to La Salle county, Illinois, and on his father's farm in that county he grew to manhood, and in the district schools he received his education. He remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, when he came to Charlotte township, Livingston county, where he engaged in farming for himself. After remaining on that farm for two years he went back to La Salle county, and, in 1885, was married to Miss Anna Hampson, who was born near Washington, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Lindsey and Martha (Earl) Hampson, both of whom were also natives of Pennsylvania, where their marriage occurred. They later moved to La Salle county, Illinois, but are now deceased. They had a family of three sons and three daughters, all of whom are living, as follows: Mary, wife of William Eaton, of Deer Park township, La Salle county; Anna, wife of our subject; William, Clara, James and Minor, all of whom are living in La Salle county.

After his marriage, Mr. Gardner engaged in farming on a forty-acre tract. He remained there for three years, left it, but returned and remained there five years longer, when he was compelled to give up farming He then moved to Chatsworth, purchased a lot, erected a building and opened up in the restaurant and hotel business on the 15th of August, 1893. He continued in that business very successfully until November, 1898, when he closed out and put in a stock of hardware and groceries. He now carries a full line of shelf and heavy hardware, stoves and tinware, staple and fancy groceries, and is doing a good business. Owning the building in which his store is located, his expenses are light, and he can and does compete with stores in the larger towns.

To Mr. and Mrs. Gardner have been born five children, as follows: Gertrude, Edith, Edna, Ola and Leslie J., all of whom are pupils in the public schools, with the exception of the last named.

In politics Mr. Gardner is a Democrat, and while he has invariably refused to accept public office, was elected a member of the board of education in 1900. Fraternally he is a member of Camp No. 1829, M. W. A. He is on the working team in his camp, and takes great interest in its proceedings. As a citizen he is enterprising and progressive, ever willing to do his share in advancing the welfare of his adopted city and county.

WILLIAM S. SKINNER, M. D.

William S. Skinner, M. D., a prominent and successful physician and surgeon of Forrest, Illinois, was born in London, Ontario, Canada, January 20, 1872, and is a son of George R. and Dina (Reeves) Skinner, natives of the same place. His paternal grandfather, Rev. James Skinner, a Presbyterian minister, removed from Scotland to Canada

in 1837, and for twenty-six years was pastor of a church in the township of London, Ontario. He also served as superintendent of schools for Middlesex county a number of years, and died there about 1866. The Doctor's maternal grandfather, William Reeves, was a native of England, an early settler of London, Canada, where he followed the occupation of farming throughout life. The father of our subject engaged in the same pursuit, and became quite an extensive dealer in real estate in Dakota. He is now a resident of Manitoba, where he conducts a large stock and grain farm. In his family of seven children the Doctor is the second in order of birth.

Dr. Skinner began his education in the public schools of London, Ontario, and spent three years at the Collegiate Institute. He next attended the Western Medical College, of London, one year and then entered the medical department of the Northwestern University, at Chicago, where he took a full three-years' course, during which time he was assistant to Professor McDiarmiel, who occupied the chair of gynecology and obstetrics in the Post-Graduate School. He was graduated in 1899 and took a competitive examination for a position in the Lying-in Hospital, and standing third highest was resident physician there for a time. He then came to Forrest and opened an office, buying the practice of an old physician. He has had a remarkably successful career for so young a man and his practice is steadily increasing. His practice now is of a general character, tending toward a specialty in surgery. The Doctor is now a member of the board of health of Forrest and assistant physician for the Wabash and Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw Railroads, in which capacity he does much work.

On the 4th of November, 1899, Dr. Skinner was united in marriage with Miss Mabel Cracraft, of Forrest, formerly of Wilmington, Illinois. She is a well-educated lady and has successfully engaged in teaching school. Both the Doctor and his wife are active members of the Congregational church, and she is now serving as secretary of the Ladies' Aid Society and holds the same office in the Eastern Star. Fraternally the Doctor is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is the medical examiner for the Union Central Life Insurance Company, of Cincinnati.

WILLIAM LOUIS RABE, M. D.

William Louis Rabe, M. D., is a skilled physician and surgeon of Dwight, whose knowledge of the science of medicine is broad and comprehensive, and whose ability in applying its principles to the needs of suffering humanity has gained him an enviable prestige in professional circles.

The family to which the Doctor belongs was founded in America by his paternal grandfather, Jacob Rabe, a native of Germany, who came to this country when a young man prior to the war of 1812. His ancestors had for many generations been widely known throughout Prussia, and two of his brothers were publishers at Berlin. On his arrival in America he located on a tract of land near what was then the unimportant little town of Monongahela, Pennsylvania, where he spent the remainder of his life as a farmer. There he married and reared a family of three children, and was a soldier of the war of 18812. Being a temperate man and of good habits, he

WILLIAM LOUIS RABE, M. D.

lived to the extreme old age of one hundred years and three months, and preserved his mental and physical strength to a remarkable degree. He was noted for his industry and integrity, and whether at home or among his neighbors preserved that equanimity of temper and well-bred manner which at once singled him out as a gentleman by birth and breeding. The celebrated opera singers, the Rabe sisters, belonged to the same family, and were widely known throughout Europe, where they made a fortune by their talent, who in the early '30s and '40s twice crossed the Atlantic to please and delight the Gothamites with the songs and melodies of Fatherland.

John Rabe, the Doctor's father, was born on the old homestead near Monongahela, Pennsylvania, and in the schools of that locality fitted himself for the teacher's profession, which he followed for some time, also farmed during summer. On reaching manhood he married Miss Elizabeth Luce, also a native of Pennsylvania, and to them were born the following children: Melesendra, wife of Dr. Henry Morrison, of Pittsburg; Amanda, wife of Samuel A. Frederick, of Ohio; Maria, who died at the age of sixteen years; Hiram, a capitalist of Clyde, Ohio; John, a physician of Monongahela, Pennsylvania; and William L., our subject. In 1820 the father moved with his family to Jefferson county, Ohio, and purchased a farm, which continued to be his home until called to his final rest in 1872. He was a man of more than ordinary ability, and was at once recognized as a valuable addition to the community. Religiously he was a prominent member of the Presbyterian church, and politically was first a Whig and later a Republican. As one of the leading citizens of his township he was called upon to fill various local offices. He sought to wield a healthy influence over his children, to whom he gave a liberal education and encouraged them in the exercise of those virtues by which they became valued and reputable citizens.

William Louis Rabe was born near Steubenville, Ohio, May 8, 1839. His elementary education was conducted chiefly by his father, an intelligent farmer and teacher. Subsequently he was thoroughly trained in the higher branches, first taking a course in Richmond College and then matriculating in the Cleveland Medical University. He began the practice of his profession at Wellsville, Ohio, the larger portion of which was on the Virginia side of the Ohio river. During the civil war he served as assistant surgeon with the Union forces, and was wounded upon the occasion of General Morgan's capture in Columbiana county. As hostilities drew to a close, in common with other industrious citizens he prepared to resume the occupations of peace. For a time his decision wavered between the adoption of the clerical and the medical professions. In 1862 he was chosen president of the Richmond (Ohio) College, which position he resigned after filling it two terms. In 1865 he entered both the McCormick Theological Seminary and Rush Medical College, of Chicago, two years thereafter receiving a diploma from each of the institutions named. After his graduation he was honored with calls from the First Presbyterian church, of Bloomington, Illinois, Mattoon, Illinois, and LaPorte, Indiana. In 1867 he located at the place first named and remained there nine years, when he removed to Dwight to engage in the practice of medicine. Here for more than twenty years he has given faithful and effective attention to his pro-

fessional duties, and has established one of the largest and most lucrative practices to be found in the interior of the state. He is a constant reader of the best medical literature of the day, to which he is also a valued contributor. He is a member of the state, inter-state and national societies, and correspondent of the World's Medical Congress. He has repeatedly delivered addresses before medical associations. The following is an extract from an address made before the Inter-State Association: "Gentlemen or Brothers—Wise and learned as we are supposed or ought to be—walking or moving thesaurus of medical knowledge, can anyone answer satisfactorily why or of what a pain is? Why are so many so seriously sick? Or most of all, why do so many die?"

Conservative in medical practices as he is, in theory he is always respecting and trying a new remedy. He never discharges an old soldier (so to speak) in old attire for a recruit in costlier dress, until he knows the latter can more quickly wound or kill one or more of the twenty-five hundred diseases that not only afflict but by which mankind ultimately dies. He has a bitter hatred of artful or underhanded dealing of any kind; is in fact an uncompromising but honest fighter when he believes he is in the right or has been unjustly assailed. A case in point was the protracted contest which was waged against him by the Keeley Company. A post graduate of the Keeley Institute, and at the same time an attorney for the same, had him called before the United States court for a technical violation of the revenue laws. The Doctor was asked to plead for himself and in ten minutes his case was dismissed, the United States district attorney emphasizing the fact by the remark: "This is a vindication of a noble man." The closing period of Dr. Rabe's address was as follows: "If there is any secret oath recorded as I know on earth, and I trust in heaven, it is that I am a good Templar. And more: I have on my body the mark of a wound out of which blood flowed, more than several drops of blood, over thirty years ago, in defense of a country the best of which history gives any record. Now please do not even intimate when I am getting old and gray and feel I am verging towards the close of active life, that I should for any cause be forgetful of the past, recreant to sacred duty; in a word, be a semi-traitor to the strong, lasting, beneficent government that not only protects my property, but graciously shields and preserves my person." The sequence of the case was the dismissal of the attorney by the company, and they in turn were summoned by the people to appear before the bar of one of the lower and higher courts of the commonwealth of Illinois for actual violation of law and good order.

In 1867 Dr. Rabe was married to Miss Emma Clay Temple, of Bloomington, Illinois, whose parents were natives of Virginia, and lineal descendants of the Parke Curtis (Martha Washington) family. Mrs. Rabe died in August, 1888, leaving four children: Mildred T., born July 17, 1868, is the widow of Leonard Howlett, of Syracuse, New York, and a resident of that place; William L., born October 8, 1869, is connected with the Chicago & Alton Railroad and is a resident of Washington, Illinois; Clarence Parke, born January 10, 1872, is connected with the firm of Nicolas Cramer & Company, dealers in real estate, insurance and loans, of Chicago; Lucy E., born January 21, 1874, is at home. All have been

provided with good educational advantages, and Mrs. Howlett studied music for two years under Professor Phelps, of Chicago. Both she and her sisters are singers of unusual ability. The former is and has been for several years a salaried soloist in the First Presbyterian church, of Syracuse, New York, devoting herself to concert and church service, or engagements.

JAMES McCORMICK.

James McCormick, one of the early settlers and highly respected citizens of Livingston county, who is now living a retired life in the village of Strawn, Fayette township, is a native of this state, born in La Salle county, October 21, 1837, and is a son of Alfred and Amanda (Downerd) McCormick. His paternal grandfather was Charles McCormick, a native of County Tyrone, Ireland, who, on coming to this country at an early day, settled in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, where his three sons and two daughters were born and reared. He went to La Salle county, Illinois, with the father of our subject, and engaged in farming in Farm Ridge township for many years, but died in Bruce township at the age of seventy-three years. His wife, who survived him several years, died in the same place and was laid to rest by his side. Alfred McCormick was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, about 1808, and remained there until twenty-five years of age, assisting his father in the work of the farm. In 1833 he moved to La Salle county, Illinois, and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Farm Ridge township, which property he improved and made his home for about eight years. On selling out he bought another farm in the same township, and lived there for a number of years, when he disposed of that place and moved to Streator, where he spent the last ten years of his life in retirement from active labor, dying there in 1886. He was a consistent member of the Methodist church, which his family attended, and was a life-long Democrat, but never sought nor held public office. He was a public-spirited man, an advocate of all that would tend to advance or improve the community in which he lived. His wife survived him about three years, and also died in Streator. Of their eleven children, eight are still living, our subject being the second in order of birth.

Until he attained his majority James McCormick lived with his parents, assisting in the farm work and attending the common schools of La Salle county. He then engaged in farming for himself upon rented land in that county until after the Civil war broke out, when he enlisted at Ottawa, in August, 1862, in Company E, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. At Hartsville, Tennessee, he was taken prisoner, and held for about six months before being exchanged. Returning home sick, he was finally discharged at Ottawa, in the winter of 1863.

After recovering his health Mr. McCormick came to Livingston county, where for a year he worked by the month for Mr. Morgan, one of the earliest settlers of the county, and for the same length of time herded cattle where the town of Strawn now stands. He next engaged in farming for himself in Fayette township, and followed that occupation continuously for twenty years. For four years he was then engaged in the liquor business in Strawn, and at

Kangley, La Salle county, ten years, after which he returned to Strawn, where he conducted a saloon one year, but since that time has lived a retired life, enjoying the fruits of former toil. Since attaining his majority Mr. McCormick has always affiliated with the Democratic party, and is a member of the Roman Catholic church of Strawn, to which his family also belong. He is widely and favorably known and has many friends throughout Livingston and La Salle counties.

In Farm Ridge township, La Salle county, Mr. McCormick was married, February 4, 1858, to Miss Jane Conelly, a native of Oswego, New York, and the third in order of birth in a family of ten children, seven of who are still living. Her parents were Michael and Margaret (Coregan) Conelly. Her father, who was a miller by trade, died in Oswego, at the age of thirty years, but her mother lived to the advanced age of ninety and died in Fayette township, Livingston county, September 24, 1899.

To Mr. and Mrs. McCormick were born the following children: (1) Thomas P. died at the age of two months. (2) Edward, an engineer on the Union Pacific Railroad and a resident of Pittsburg, Kansas, has been married three times, his first wife being Mary Saughnessey, by whom he had four children: James; Thomas, who died at the age of sixteen years; William and Edna Jane, who both died in infancy. His second wife was Florence Lossing and to them were born two children, Ruth and Edith. His present wife was Delia Otterman. (3) Maggie is the widow of Thomas Smoot, a telegraph operator of Strawn, where she is now keeping a boarding house. She had three children: Robert, Maude and Thomas, all living; and Catherine, deceased. (4) Minnie is the wife of William A. Somers, of Strawn, and they had nine children, namely: Frank, Elizabeth J., Geneva, William, Peter, Katie, Cora, Marie and William, 2nd. (5) Rose, the first white child born in Fayette township, Livingston county, is the wife of James Keeley, a farmer of Forrest township, and they have seven children: Edward, Maggie, Thomas, May, Agnes, Teresa and James. (6) Cora died at the age of nine months. (7) Agnes is the wife of W. A. Myers, of Chicago, superintendent of the Harlem race track. (8) Lizzie is at home. (9) Teresa is now teaching in the public schools of Sibley, and also taught in Kangley five years. (10) Katie died at the age of two years and four months. (11) Martha is the wife of Elmer Davis, a farmer of Forrest township, and they have two children, Josephine and Jane Frances.

AUGUSTUS ROBINSON.

Augustus Robinson, who for a third of a century has been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Broughton township, Livingston county, his home being on section 30, is a native of Illinois, born in La Salle county, October 24, 1840, and is a son of James and Sophia (Richey) Robinson, who were born in Ohio, in 1815 and 1818, respectively, and when young came to this state with their parents, settling in La Salle county during the Indian troubles. There the families engaged in farming under great difficulties, hauling their wheat to Chicago markets. The grandparents of our subject all died in La Salle county upon land which they had taken up from the government. His grandfather, Nathaniel Richey,

served as a private in the war of 1812. Our subject's parents were married in La Salle county and settled on government land where they made their home throughout life, the father dying June 2, 1899, the mother in 1864. He was a radical Republican in politics, but never took an active part in political affairs, however, and both were earnest and consistent members of the Congregational church. Augustus was their oldest child, the others being Priscilla, wife of Ellison Shepherd, a farmer of La Platte, Missouri; Alexander, a farmer of Highmore, South Dakota; Andrew J., a resident of Granville, Illinois; Eva S., wife of R. N. West, of Mexico, Missouri; John H., who is living near that place; James V., who lives near Geneva, Nebraska; and Sophia, wife of William E. Hoke, of Odell.

Augustus Robinson is indebted to the public schools of La Salle county for his early educational advantages. He remained upon the home farm until he attained his majority, and then enlisted in 1862 in Company B, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He followed his regiment to the Cumberland mountains, where he was taken ill and assigned to other duty. He participated in the battle of Nashville, and was honorably discharged in July, 1865. After his return home he rented land and lived near his parents until his marriage. In 1866 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of unimproved land in Broughton township, Livingston county, but did not locate thereon until two years later. It was canal land, which by hard work and skillful management he has transformed into one of the most productive and best improved farms of the locality. As he succeeded he added another one hundred and eighteen acres to his farm, and now has two hundred and seventy-eight acres on section 30 under a high state of cultivation. He has made a specialty of stock raising, devoting his attention principally to hogs.

Mr. Robinson was united in marriage January 9, 1868, with Miss Alice Hayward, who was born in county Kent, England, August 25, 1842, and about 1850 emigrated to Toronto, Canada, with her parents, John and Mary (Waghorne) Hayward. In 1866 she came to La Salle county, Illinois. Her parents made their home in Saugatuck, Michigan, but her father died while on a visit at the home of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Robinson have five children: (1) William A., who lives near Kirksville, Missouri, married Edith Gilbert, daughter of C. H. Gilbert, of Emington, Illinois, and they have four children, Elsie G., Lael F., Clyde A. and Mary A. (2) Mattie I., who was educated at Oberlin College, is the wife of Dr. C. P. Wikoff, a prominent physician of Emington, and they have one daughter, Alice F. (3) Gertrude took a course of music at Wheaton College, and is now at home. (4) Horace E., who operates a part of his father's farm, married Alice Drew, daughter of Thomas Drew, of Emington, and they have two children, Harland Drew and Irving Clare. (5) Charles A. is at home.

Politically Mr. Robinson is a stanch Republican, and has held nearly every office in the township, serving as collector, assessor and supervisor one term each, and school treasurer since 1875. He takes quite an active and prominent part in local politics, and has been a delegate to state and county conventions of his party. Fraternally he is a member of the Grand Army Post of Saunemin; and religiously is a member of the Congregational church, of which he is treas-

urer and trustee. He is a worthy Christian gentleman, well liked by all who know him.

ELIAS HARTMAN.

Elias Hartman, a prosperous and substantial farmer residing on section 23, Sullivan township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Tazewell county, this state, July 20, 1842, a son of Peter and Agnes (Hartman) Hartman, who, though of the same name, were not related prior to their marriage. They were natives of Germany, and shortly after their marriage emigrated to the new world, locating first in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania. Not long afterward they went to Ohio, and after a short time spent in that state came to Tazewell county, Illinois, where they were numbered among the early settlers. There the father purchased land and engaged in farming until his death. In the family were six children: Ann, who died young; Henry, a resident of Tazewell county; Elias, our subject; Benjamin, deceased, who spent his entire life in Tazewell county; Sarah and Emanuel, still residents of that county.

The subject of this review began his education in an old log school-house in Tazewell county, one mile from his boyhood home, where he pursued his studies for two months during the winter, and later walked two miles to school through timber, over hills and hollows. At intervals he attended school through the winter as he had opportunity until about twenty years of age, and thus acquired a good practical education. His father had died when the family was young, and he remained at home with his mother until he attained his majority, and then commenced farming on a small tract of land for himself, at the same time assisting in the management of the home place. In 1866 he came to Livingston and bought a forty-acre tract of land adjoining the eighty acres of raw prairie land purchased by his mother, and that year broke both places. As he was unmarried he returned to the old home in Tazewell county each winter for four years, and in the spring would resume his farming operations here.

On the 24th of January, 1871, Mr. Hartman was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Shelly, a native of Butler county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Henry and Margaret (Drushel) Shelly who was also born in that county, and spent his last days in Kankakee county, Illinois. She is the second in order of birth in a family of five children, the others being Elizabeth, wife of Emanuel Hartman, of Tazewell; Reinhard, a resident of Round Grove township, Livingston county; Matilda, wife of Albert Wild, of Ogle county, Illinois; and Mary, who died at about the age of ten years. Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hartman one died in infancy. The others are Martha, wife of Elias Christophel, residing on section 12, Sullivan township, Livingston county; Henry, who married Ida Engle and lives in Tazewell county; Peter, a resident of Livingston county; Margaret, wife of John Diebel, living on section 22, Sullivan township; and John, Emanuel, Levi, Amanda, Harvey, Reuben and Lewis, all at home.

After his marriage Mr. Hartman moved into a house on his mother's eighty-acre farm in Livingston county, and three years later built his present residence on his own land. A year or two after making the first purchase he bought another forty acres, and in course of ten years bought the eighty

acres belonging to his mother, so that he owned all of the northeast quarter of section 23, Sullivan township. He has since bought eighty acres on section 14, and the southwest quarter of section 22, making four hundred acres, lacking one acre, on which the school-house is located, and the track of the Illinois Central Railroad, which runs through one quarter-section. He is a thorough and skillful farmer, a man of good business ability and sound judgment, and has met with well-merited success in his farming operations. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hartman are members of the Mennonite church, of Cullom, and he is independent in politics, voting for the men best qualified for the positions regardless of party lines.

JOSEPH KUNTZ.

Joseph Kuntz, a highly esteemed and honored citizen of Strawn, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Alsace, France, July 16, 1825, and is a son of Michael and Barbara (Boch) Kuntz, who spent almost their entire lives as farming people in Bavaria, Germany, going there in 1829. In their family were five children, namely: Jacob, Frederick, Joseph, Magdalena and Barbara.

The early life of our subject was spent in his native land, but in 1865 he crossed the broad Atlantic and took up his residence in Tazewell county, Ilinois, where he engaged in farming until coming to Livingston county, in 1868. He then purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 18, Fayette township, to which he added from time to time until he became the owner of seven hundred and twenty acres of rich and arable land, having one of the largest and best improved farms in the county. In connection with general farming he engaged in stock raising quite extensively, and in all his undertakings met with most gratifying success. He has ever been found upright and honorable in all his dealings, and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well deserved.

On the 7th of April, 1856, Mr. Kuntz married Miss Barbara Meister, who was also born in Germany, September 17, 1837, and to them were born the following children: (1) Peter, a resident of Fayette township, married Elizabeth Garboge, and they have six children, Joseph, William, Hermann, Clara, Catherine, Hallie and an infant daughter. (2) Joseph, a resident of Ford county, Illinois, married Elizabeth Kanauer, and has one son, Frank. (3) Henry, a farmer of McLean county, married Emma Friday. (4) Mary is now the wife of Eric N. Gullberg, mentioned below. (5) Susan is the wife of Henry Witzburger, a farmer of Fayette township, Livingston county, and they have one daughter, Stella. (6) Albert married Sarah Schrine and resides in Ford county. (7) John married Lena Schrine and resides on the home farm of Mr. Kuntz. (8) Kittie married Andrew Roth and they live in Ford county. (9) Rosa married Gustolph Ringle, and resides in Strawn.

Mr. Kuntz and his family are devout members of the Catholic church, and are people of prominence in the communities where they reside. Politicaly he is identified with the Democratic party, and has ever taken a deep and commendable interest in public affairs. He filled the office of road commissioner two terms and school director for the same length of time.

Eric N. Gullberg, one of the leading business men of Strawn, was born in the southern part of Sweden, January 18, 1858, a son of Nels and Anna (Olson) Erickson. For about eighteen years the father was engaged in the manufacture of shoes, conducting a large shop and employng seven or eight hands. On retiring from that business he turned his attention to farming, which he followed for many years. He died at his home in Sweden, in 1881, at the age of sixty-five years, and the mother departed this life in 1895, at the age of eighty-one. In their family were six children, three of whom are still living, namely: Peter N. Erickson, who is now engaged in the shoe business in St. Paul, Minnesota; Nellie Erickson, who is unmarried and still resides in Sweden; and Eric N. Gullberg, our subject.

Mr. Gullberg was reared and educated in Sweden, attending the high school of his birth-place. He worked on his father's farm until seventeen years of age, and then entered the Swedish army, serving five years as a corporal in a cavalry regiment, and during his vacations was employed in a wholesale house in Sullvesburg. On enternig the army he changed his name from Erickson to Gullberg, which was the name of one of his cousins, and has since retained the latter. In 1883 he embarked in the grocery business in Pukawic, but his store was destroyed by fire in August, 1885, and he lost all he had. He then worked in a grocery store until coming to the United States April 15, 1890. He made his home in Chicago until March, 1891, and then went to Goodland, Indiana, where he worked on a farm for nearly a year. On the 3d of February, 1892, he came to Strawn, and after being employed as a farm hand for about four years, he embarked in the liquor business in that village, which he still carries on with good success.

On the 23d of August, 1898, in Strawn, Mr. Gullberg was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary L. Benway, daughter of Joseph Kuntz, and widow of Joseph Benway, by whom she had three children, all still living, namely: Albert J., Oscar W. and William J. In his political views Mr. Gullberg is a Republican, and in his social relations is a member of Payson Lodge, No. 705, I. O. O. F., and Fayette Lodge, No. 458, K. P., of Strawn. He has passed all the chairs in both orders, and is now secretary and representative in the former and master of exchequer in the latter, having held the last named office for the past three years. He is also a prominent member of the Livingston County Liquor Dealers' Association, and has been treasurer of the same since its organization.

CHARLES H. HOKE.

Charles H. Hoke, chief deputy sheriff of Livingston county, and one of the leading citizens of Pontiac, was born in Union township, this county, June 28, 1861, a son of Samuel and Laura N. (Kenney) Hoke. The father was born in Bedford county, Pennsylvania, and there grew to manhood and learned the cabinet-maker's trade. The mother was a native of Williamsburg, the same state, and a dughter of a Mr. Kenney, a well-known attorney of that place. Three of their children were born in Pennsylvania before the family came to Illinois. There the father conducted a large furnture and undertaking establishment, but on account of failing health he was obliged to discontinue

the business. Selling his store, he came to Livingston county, Illinois, in 1859, and purchased eighty acres of land in Union township for eight dollars per acre. In the house he erected thereon his wife taught the first school in the township, having previously engaged in teaching in her native state. He turned his attention to the improvement and cultivation of his land, and so successful was he in his farming operations that he added to his place until he had four hundred acres, two hundred and forty acres of which is still in possession of the family. He tiled the land and converted it into one of the best farms of the county. He took a prominent and active part in public affairs, especially along educational lines, serving as a school director and member of the board for many years. He also filled the office of assessor for a number of years, and was a stanch Republican in politics. In 18— he left the farm and moved to Odell, where he lived retired until his death, in 1898. He was a faithful member of the Congregational church, to which his wife also belonged. She is still a resident of Odell. In their family were five children, namely: Alexander R., a teacher who lives in the Illinois State Reformatory; Mrs. Margaret Houchin; William E., a real estate dealer of Odell; Charles H., our subject; and Frank L., a harness-maker of Odell.

Our subject commenced his education in the district schools of Union township, and later attended the Odell high school. On leaving the home farm at the age of twenty-two years, he went to Odell, where he successfully conducted a livery, sale, feed and exchange stable, building up a large and profitable business and shipping in carload lots to New York, Chicago and other markets. He was a fine judge of horses and was thoroughly conversant with every department of the business.

While engaged in business at Odell Mr. Hoke became interested in Republican politics, and was elected constable, which position he acceptably filled for twelve years. He was a delegate to most of the county and state conventions of his party, and served as deputy sheriff for Odell under Sheriff Wilson for two years; four years under T. W. Coe, and four years under E. O. Reed, the present county treasurer. He was also prominently mentioned as candidate for sheriff in 1897, and received the second highest number of votes, W. L. Talbott being the successful candidate of the seven in the field. Mr. Hoke made a thorough canvass and after the election was at once appointed chief deputy by Sheriff Talbott. Since then he has been a resident of Pontiac, and now owns a beautiful home at No. 610 East Madison street. In his present position he has had charge of a number of noted criminals, including Samuel Rightsel, convicted of murder at Fairbury; and the six bank robbers who looted the Cornell Bank. He has proved a most efficient and satisfactory officer, being prompt and faithful in the discharge of his duties and true to every trust reposed in him, whether public or private.

On the 22d of April, 1893, Mr. Hoke was united in marriage with Miss Minnie G. Worthley, of Harvey, Illinois, a daughter of Daniel Worthley, a veteran of the Civil war and an early settler of this state from Ohio, who is now living retired in Pontiac. By this union has been born one child, Georgetta D. They attend and support the Presbyterian church, of which Mrs. Hoke is a member. Fraternally Mr. Hoke

is an honored member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, No. 464, of Odell, of which he is past grand; also a member of the encampment; the Court of Honor at Pontiac, and one of the charter members of the Toilers' Fraternity.

ALBERT GRANT TUTTLE.

Albert Grant Tuttle, one of the most enterprising agriculturists of Livingston county, now owns and operates the northwest quarter of section 1, Saunemin township, which he has converted into one of the best improved farms of that locality. He was born in Verona township, Oneida county, New York, June 28, 1845, and is the only child of Solomon and Emeline (Page) Tuttle. The father was born near Camden, New York, August 15, 1815, and is a son of Zopher Tuttle, a soldier of the war of 1812, who was born in England and on first coming to this country located in Connecticut, where he married, but later moved to Oneida county, New York. He followed farming and reared a large family of children, one of whom, Zopher Tuttle, became a prominent pioneer of Illinois and a large land owner, who recently died in Wichita, Kansas.

The father of our subject grew to manhood in Oneida county, New York, and in early life was a successful boat builder on the Erie canal. He invested his capital largely in real estate and the dairy business and made quite a fortune. He was one of the early land owners in La Salle county, Illinois, and for years was a director and large stockholder of the First National Bank, of Rome, New York. He was one of the most influential men in his community in raising money and soldiers for the Civil war, and has always been a stanch supporter of the Republican party. He served as supervisor of his township for some years, and is one of its most highly esteemed citizens. Religiously he is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which the mother of our subject also belonged, has ever taken an active part in its work, and is one of its most liberal supporters. The mother died when our subject was only a few days old. She was a native of Oneida county, New York, and a daughter of Nathaniel Page, who at one time was a prominent boat builder and real estate owner of that county. He was born in England, and before his removal to Oneida county lived in Herkimer, New York, for a time. When our subject was two years old his father married Sarah Bailey, by whom he had three sons.

During his boyhood Grant Tuttle attended the common schools of New London, New York, and remained at home until he attained his majority, when he started out to make his own way in the world, working as a driver on canal boats for six months. The following year he steered, and then ran a boat for one man two seasons, at the end of which time he bought a boat and successfully engaged in the same business for himself, making seven trips each season between Buffalo and New York. He became well acquainted with the boatmen along the canal, and, when business began to drop off and he sold his boat, he was offered a position with a commission house in Buffalo, at good wages, the firm trying hard to get him. In September, 1882, Mr. Tuttle came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased his present farm in Saunemin township, which at that time was entirely unimproved. Af-

ter building a small house he was joined by his family, December 12, 1882. He has thoroughly tiled his land, which was at first swampy, has built fences, a good set of farm buildings, and a beautiful country home in 1895—one of the finest in the township. He has been quite extensively engaged in horse raising, but now devotes most of his attention to general farming, in which he has met with well-merited success.

Mr. Tuttle was married, October 1, 1872, to Miss Henrietta Belcher, a native of Verona, New York, and a daughter of Alexander Belcher, a well-known farmer and mill owner of that place. Of the seven children born to them two are deceased. Those living are Marcia, Wells, Morris, Julia and Ellis, all at home. Although formerly Methodists, Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle now attend and support the Emington Congregational church. He is a stanch supporter of the Republican party, but has never been an aspirant for office, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interests. He is, however, public-spirited and progressive, and gives his influence toward advancing any enterprise which he believes will prove of public benefit.

GEORGE J. WALTER.

George J. Walter, who has successfully engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile for the past twenty years, is numbered among the leading and most successful of the business men of Chatsworth, of which city he has been a resident since September, 1866. He was born in New York city, December 5, 1852, and is the son of John and Elizabeth (Reille) Walter, the former a native of Baden, Germany, and the latter of Wurtemburg, Germany, but who came to this country in early man and womanhood and were married in New York city, where they lived for some years.

In his youth John Walter learned the shoemaker's trade which he followed for twenty-five years, after which he engaged in the mercantile trade, in which he continued until about 1896, since which time he has lived a retired life. After leaving New York he remained for a time in Indiana, and then came with his family to Chatsworth, in 1866, and here has since continued to reside. For many years he was one of the leading business men of the city, and carried a general stock of goods. For a number of years he served on the school board of that city, and was also for several years a member of the village board of trustees. John and Elizabeth Walter were the parents of six children, two of whom died in infancy, while Elizabeth died at the age of twenty-one years. GeorgeJ. is the subject of this sketch. Louis A . is in the lumber business in Chatsworth, while Albert F. is in the dry goods business in the same city.

George J. Walter was fourteen years old when he came to Chatsworth. His education, begun in the public schools of his native city, was continued in the public schools of Indiana, where, as stated, the family resided for a time. On coming to Chatsworth he entered the public schools of the place and for about three years attended the high school. The education received in the schools was a practical one, and on leaving school he entered the store of his father, and later, in company with his brother Louis, took charge of the business for about two years.

In September, 1877, Mr. Walter was

united in marriage with Miss Lena Heilmann, who was born in Baden, Germany, in 1857, and who came to this country with her parents when but two years of age. By this union there have been born six children, one of whom died in infancy. Edna E. is attending Northwestern College, Naperville, Illinois, where she is taking a commercial course, and also the music and art course. Lydia is at home attending the high school of Chatsworth. Clara, Arthur and Esther are all at home.

After his marriage, Mr. Walter embarked in the bakery business in which he remained about two years with a fair degree of success. He was then one year in the furniture business, and in 1880 sold out and broke ground for his present plant for the manufacture of brick and tile, and at once engaged in the business. He has four kilns for burning brick and tile, and has erected large buildings and sheds for drying, with a floor space of nine thousand square feet. In 1881 he put in an engine of eighty-five horse power, and also two boilers of one hundred and ten horse power. The plant has a capacity for thirty thousand brick and Mr. Walter does the largest business of any firm in the county, shipping his product by rail to many points in and out of the county.

In politics Mr. Walter is a Republican, and has taken an active interest in the political affairs of his country, though never an active politician. He has been a member of the school board in Chatsworth for seven years, and has taken great interest in maintaining good schools. Religiously he and his wife are members of the Evangelical Association.

In his business life Mr. Walter has been very successful. For a short time he had a partner, and for about five years his father was associated with him in business, but for the greater part of the time he has managed it alone, and as stated does the largest business of any firm in the county in like business, and he has the largest plant in the county. In addition to the plant which covers two and a half acres of ground, he owns eighty acres adjoining the city on the east. As a citizen no one is willing to do more to advance the interests of his adopted city and county, and as friend he is kind and obliging, ever willing to do a good turn. As such as he is entitled to a place in the historical annals of his county.

WALTER LEGGATE.

Walter Leggate, one of the leading agriculturists of Germanville township, whose fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres is pleasantly situated on section 14, was born in the city of New York, December 7, 1853, a son of John and Elizabeth (Fleming) Leggate. The father was born on the 25th of August, 1816, in Lanarkshire, Scotland, through which county flows the far-famed and beautiful river Clyde, and is a son of James and Margaret (Dalgleish) Leggate, who had three children: Robert, who served for twenty years in the British army, and died at his home in Scotland in 1885; John, father of our subject; and James, who came to America when a young man and is now living in New Jersey. In early life John Leggate learned the weaver's trade, and in 1837 married Elizabeth Fleming, also a native of Lanarkshire. In 1848, with their family of four children, they took passage on a sailing vessel at Glasgow, and after ten weeks spent upon the water landed in New

York city, where the father worked at his trade three years, and in a glass factory the same length of time. Later he moved to Canada, and made his home near London, until 1857, being employed in a brickyard most of the time. Having saved a little money by close economy and untiring industry, he resolved to invest it in western land and came to Livingston county, Illinois, where he purchased eighty acres in Germanville township. He prospered in his new home, and at length became the owner of two hundred and forty acres of valuable land on section 10, where he is now living a retired life enjoying the fruits of former toil. He is a man of many noble traits of character, and is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him. Religiously he is a faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and has always taken an active part in church and Sunday school work. In his political views he is a Republican, and filled the office of justice of the peace in his township for many years. His wife died in May, 1893, at about the age of seventy-eight years, and was laid to rest in Germanville cemetery. She, too, was a devout member of the Presbyterian church and a most estimable lady.

To this worthy couple were born nine children, of whom four are now living: James, a brick manufacturer of Chicago, who first married Matilda Linn, and second Anna Smith, of Chicago; John, an engineer of Chicago, who married Nancy McKay; Walter, our subject; and Sarah, wife of Owen McMahon, who operates his father-in-law's farm in Germanville township. Of those deceased Marion died when a small child in Scotland; Margaret married John Beckman of Germanville township, and died in Iowa, where her husband is now engaged in farming; Robert served three years in Company E, Eighty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and died in Iowa, leaving a wife and two children; George, born in Scotland, married Dora Lutson, of Germanville township, where he followed farming for some time, but about fourteen years ago moved to Iowa, where he died in March, 1898, leaving a widow and four children; and Archie died in Germanville, at the age of four years.

Walter Leggate was only a year old when the family moved to Canada, and came with them to Illinois, in the spring of 1857. At the age of nine years he entered the public schools of Germanville township, where he was educated. He continued to assist in the operation of the home farm until fourteen yearge ago, when he located upon his present place, and has since devoted his energies to its further improvement and cultivation. Politically he is identified with the Republican party, and he has been called upon to serve his fellow citizens as township collector several terms and also as constable. He is widely and favorably known in his adopted county, and those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends.

On the 25th of December, 1876, in Germanville township, Mr. Leggate was united in marriage with Miss Ruth Ellen Mahood, a daughter of Alexander and Mary (Sumney) Mahood. The father, who was a prominent and prosperous farmer of that township, died in 1874, and was buried there, but the mother is still living at the age of seventy-one years, and makes her home with our subject. Mr. Leggate has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died June 1, 1897, leaving four children, namely: John Alexander, born March

30, 1878; Laura, August 26, 1880; Walter F., July 12, 1884; and Eva May, January 26, 1889. All were born in Livingston county, and the family is one of prominence in the community where they reside.

HON. CHARLES M. BARICKMAN.

Hon. Charles M. Barickman, judge of the county and probate courts of Livingston county, is a native of the county, and was born in Newtown township, December 28, 1862. His father, Benjamin Barickman, is one of the oldest living settlers of the county, having located here in 1832, when a lad of eight years. (See sketch on another page of this work.)

On the home farm Charles M. grew to manhood, and in the common schools of the neighborhood he received his primary education, while during his vacations he assisted in the operation of the farm. With the desire to obtain a more liberal education than that afforded by the public schools, he entered the Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois, from which institution he was graduated with the class of 1887.

Leaving the university for the next two years, Mr. Barickman was engaged in teaching, first at Ancona and later at Cornell, spending one year in each place. During that time, in his leisure hours and during his vacations, he read law and made such progress in his studies that in 1889 he was admitted to practice in all the courts of the state by the supreme court in session at Mt. Vernon, Illinois.

On his admission to the bar, Mr. Barickman located in Pontiac and at once entered upon the practice of his profession. He very soon took rank with the leading practitioners of the place, and became well known throughout the county. His ability as an attorney was recognized, and in 1894 he was nominated for the office of county judge, and at the election in November of that year he was elected by a majority of about eight hundred over his Democratic opponent. So well did he transact the business of the office that in 1898 he was renominated and elected by a largely increased majority, receiving the largest number of votes of any candidate upon the ticket, his majority being twelve hundred and twenty-six votes. He is now serving his second term, and to say that his management of the office is satisfactory to the people goes without question.

On the 16th of April, 1890, Judge Barickman was united in marriage with Miss Rena M. Ten Eick and daughter of Matthew and Mary (Means) Ten Eick, of Bloomington, Illinois. The judge and his wife attend and support the Methodist Episcopal church, of Pontiac, and socially they are held in the highest esteem. They occupy a fine residence on Maplewood avenue, erected by the Judge, and their home is ever open to their many friends.

Judge Barickman was born during the time of the civil war, and grew up a loyal citizen and an ardent Republican. His first presidential vote was cast for James G. Blaine in 1884, and since that time he has ever taken an active interest in politics, and his influence has been felt in the councils of his party and in the county of which he has been a life-long resident. Fraternally he is a member of Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, A. F. & A. M.; and of Crescent Lodge, No. 118, K. P. In the latter lodge he has held

all the chairs, and has been a representative to the Grand Lodge of the state. He is also a member of the Uniformed Rank, K. P., and has served as captain two terms. As a citizen he is alive to all that has a tendency to make the city of his adoption and the county of his birth take rank with the best in our fair state.

LEONARD LARGE.

Leonard Large, deceased, was for many years identified with the agricultural interests of Pleasant Ridge township, Livingston county, Illinois, and was numbered among its highly respected citizens. He was born May 3, 1818, in Farrington, five miles from Lynn, England, and there grew to manhood on a farm, his father being employed as a farmer on an estate there. In 1853 he married Miss Sarah F. Mitchell, who was born near the same place, May 4, 1829. Her father was Freeman Mitchell, a native of Wispich, England, and a blacksmith by trade, who died when she was eight years old, leaving a widow and four children.

For one year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Large made their home in Roseberry, Topham, Yorkshire, England, and then came to the United States, settling first in Stony Rocks, New York, not far from Auburn, where they spent four years. At the end of that time they came to Illinois and bought a small tract of ten acres of land five miles from Eureka, on which a log house was built. As his financial resources increased Mr. Large added to his property little by little until he had forty acres, which he subsequently sold for eleven hundred dollars. In 1870 he came to Pleasant Ridge township, Livingston county, and purchased eighty acres of land on which the family still reside. At that time not a fence had been built or an improvement made, but he erected a good house and barn, planted fruit and shade trees, tiled the land and placed it under a high state of cultivation, so that it is now a valuable farm.

Mr. Large died September 11, 1880, honored and respected by all who knew him. Both he and his estimable wife held membership in the Episcopal church. In their family were the following children: William; Sarah A., deceased; Leonard, Isaac, Thomas, Mrs. Rebecca Minear, Mrs. Martha Bruner and John, all living near Lexington, Nebraska; Rachel and Robert, both at home.

MILES DESIRE.

Miles Desire, a farmer and stock raiser, residing on section 28, Chatsworth township, while not numbered among the early settlers is a well known citizen of the county, which has been his home since 1876. He is a native of France, born March 1, 1853, and is a son of Casimer W. and Mary (Savorvin) Meillian, both of whom were also natives of France, where their entire lives were spent, and where they died about 1896. They were the parents of eight children, of whom one died in infancy. The living are Desire, the subject of this sketch; Marrius, Dennis, Ferdinand, Julius, Mary and Susan. Of the children none came to this country but our subject and Dennis. The latter is living in Colorado, where he is engaged in mining.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood and was educated in the public schools of his native land. He was reared to farm

life and assisted his father on the home farm until 1873, when he came to the United States, with a view of bettering his condition in life. On his arrirval he took up his residence in Marshall county, Illinois, where worked as a farm hand for three years. He then came to Livingston county, rented land in Germanville township, and commenced farming for himself. Two years later, September 21, 1878, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Bevins, who was born in Bureau county, Illinois, in 1860. After his marriage he continued to farm rented land in Germanville township until 1881, when he moved to Chatsworth township, where he also rented and continued to farm until 1889, when he purchased one hundred and sixty acres on section 30, a partly improved farm. To that farm he moved and put it under an excellent state of cultivation,tiling and otherwise improving the place. He remained on that farm for six years and then purchased three hundred and sixty acres of swamp and timber land on section 28. This land was entirly unimproved, having neither building or fence on the place. He has since cleared about two hundred acres of timber, drained the swamp, and now has a good farm. The first year he raised ninety bushels of sod corn to the acre.

Mr. and Mrs. Desire are the parents of three children: Mary Ann, who is engaged in dressmaking in Chatsworth; and Lizzie and Joseph, at home. Mrs. Desire was one of a family of four daughters and one son, as follows: Annie, wife of Carl Drake, living in Chicago; Martha E., wife of our subject; Sarah E., wife of George Pyles, now living in Missouri; Mary A., wife of M. Krebb, of Chicago; and Caleb E., living in Whiting, Indiana.

When Mr. Desire came to the United States he could not speak a word of the English language, and he was seventeen dollars in debt when he landed in Chicago. He came here, however, with the intention of overcoming all obstacles, and that he has overcome them this record of his life will attest. By his industry and enterprise he has become the owner of a fine farm, well stocked, and the future is bright before him. In addition to general farming he has usually engaged in the stock business, not only raising but buying and shipping as well, and in this he has met with a reasonable degree of success.

Mr. Desire cast his first presidential vote for Samuel J. Tilden, but now votes the Republican ticket straight. He has served as commissioner of highways for ten years, urer of the commissioner of highways for school director nine years, and has been tras- the last three years. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Chatsworth, and has been trustee of the same. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America of Chatsworth. Religiously he is a member of the Catholic church of Chatsworth. He has been a successful man, is well esteemed in the community which has been his home for nearly a quarter of a century and has many warm friends.

DAVID SHANTZ.

David Shantz, who owns and operates a valuable farm of three hundred and twenty acres on section 27, Sullivan township, Livingston county, Illinois, is a native of Canada, born in Berlin, Waterloo county, January 30, 1846, and is a son of Isaac C. and Elizabeth (Snyder) Shantz, both natives of

Pennsylvania. The Shantz family came originally from Switzerland, and were among the first settlers of Bucks county, Pennsylvania. The great-grandfather of our subject was Isaac Shantz, who was born in Montgomery county, that state, January 14, 1748, and was married, in 1774, to Barbara Reiff, who was born in September, 1753. When our subject's father was only three years old, the grandfather, Christian Shantz, took his family to Waterloo county, Canada, locating there when the Indians were far more numerous than the white settlers. There he and his wife spent their remaining days. The father grew to manhood in Canada and in early life learned the cabinetmaker's trade. For many years he ran a sawmill and furniture factory at Manheim, manufacturing all kinds of furniture, but misfortune overtook him and he sold out. In 1858 he removed to Gardner, Grundy county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming upon rented land for two years, and for the same length of time rented land in Round Grove and Dwight townships, Livingston county. Coming to Sullivan township in 1864 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, for which he paid twenty dollars per acre, it being the farm on which our subject now lives. At the time of his death he owned two hundred acres, a part of which was wild prairie when he purchased it. His first home here was a small structure, 14x16 feet, the lumber for which he hauled from Pontiac, a distance of twenty miles. While a resident of Dwight township he sold one horse for war purposes for two hundred dollars. On first coming to this county our subject herded cattle on the prairies, bringing them from Ottawa each spring and taking them back in the fall. For this he received one dollar and a half per head for the season, and has cared for as many as seven hundred at one time. The father died September 20, 1885, at the age of eighty-two years, and was laid to rest in Sullivan Center cemetery, while the mother died in December, 1892, at the age of eighty-five years. In their family were the following children: Daniel, who died in Round Grove township, at the age of twenty-eight years, leaving two sons, who are still living; Lena, widow of Jacob Amacher and a resident of Cullom, Illinois; Christian S., who is now living retired in the same place; Elizabeth, who died at the age of two years; David, our subject; and Isaac, a farmer of Sullivan township.

During his boyhood and youth David Shantz attended school for two or three months during the winter seasons, and remained at home until he was married, February 25, 1893, to Miss Elizabeth Wenger, who was born in the Shenandoah valley, Effingham county, Virginia. Her parents, Daniel and Sarah (Coffman) Wenger, were natives of the same state, and her grandfather, Benjamin Wenger, was also a Virginian by birth and a planter, who in the midst of the timber cleared and improved a farm. The father, who also followed the occupation of farming, died in 1889, the mother in 1896. They had twelve children, namely: Gideon, Benjamin, Samuel, Daniel, Annie, David, Elizabeth, Sarah, Solomon, Mary, Moses and John. With one exception all reached years of maturity. One is now living in Kansas, another in Michigan, Mrs. Shantz in Illinois, and the others in Virginia. John and two sisters live on the old homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Shantz have five children: John and Sarah, who are now attending school; Alvin and Earl, twins; and Mary.

In 1885 Mr Shantz purchased the interest of the other heirs in his father's farm, and in 1899 bought an adjoining tract of one hundred and sixty acres, so that he now has a fine farm of three hundred and twenty acres, which is under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He makes a specialty of raising thoroughbred brown Swiss cattle, and also keeps a thoroughbred shire stallion, "Barnie," for breeding purposes. Since casting his first presidential vote for U. S. Grant Mr. Shantz has always supported the Republican party, but would never accept office, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interests. He and his wife are members of the Mennonite church, and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

WILLIAM M. MILLER.

William M. Miller, the well-known engineer of the city water works of Dwight, was born in Aurora, Illinois, October 25, 1855, and is a son of John S. and Celia J. (Kennedy) Miller, natives of Fulton county, New York, where they were reared and married. In 1854 they came west and located in Aurora, Illinois, where the father followed his trade of stone mason until 1866, when he removed to Dwight. Here he engaged in contracting and did a great deal of the stone work in Dwight and vicinity for many years, but is now living a retired life, in his eighty-eighth year. His wife died January 14, 1899, aged eighty years. Our subject's paternal grandfather Miller came of a titled Holland family. He was pressed into the British army during the Revolutionary war and brought to America.

The subject of this sketch is the eighth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, ten sons and one daughter, of whom the eldest, a son, died in infancy; James A. enlisted, at Aurora, in the Forty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry during the civil war, and after two years re-enlisted as captain in the One Hundred and Sixty-sixth regiment, was captured at Fort Donelson and died in Andersonville prison; Charles is a contractor and builder of Chicago; Andrew has been an engineer on the Wabast Railroad for thirteen years, and is now a resident of Decatur, Illinois; Amos is a prominent farmer of Ford county, Illinois; Robert was for several years yard master for the Wisconsin Central Railroad at the Roby street yards, Chicago, in which city he died in September, 1895; Alfred was for eleven years a conductor on the Indiana, Illinois & Iowa Railroad, and was killed near Walkerton, Indiana, April 20, 1899, leaving a widow and three children, who reside in Chicago; Jennie is the wife of Zerum Johnson, a resident of Dwight; Joseph and Dewitt both died of diphtheria, aged, respectively, seven and four years.

William B. Miller was but a lad of eleven years when the family removed to Dwight, which has been his home ever since. He assisted his father in stone work until sixteen years of age, when he entered the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad as section hand, and in less than a year was made foreman. Two years were spent in the round house at Dwight, and he was then promoted to engineer, running a local freight from Dwight to Washington, Illinois, for three years and a half. During the big strike of 1892 he left the railroad and for one year was engaged in running a stationary engine. In 1893 he accepted his

present position as engineer of the city water works at Dwight, and has since given his entire attention to that work. The construction of the plant was commenced in 1892 and finished the following year, and at that time was run by steam, but in 1897 the Leslie E. Keeley Company donated to the city a modern Fairbank & Morse gas engine of twenty-five horse power, two Gould seven-inch pumps with a lift capacity of seven thousand gallons per hour, and a stand pipe one hundred and twenty feet high, the upper part of which is a still tank, fifty-two feet, with a capacity of fifty thousand gallons. This furnishes an ample fire protection as well as supply for general use.

On the 18th of February, 1881, Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Heffner, daughter of Andrew and Jane (Yocum) Heffner. Her father was a prominent citizen and miller of Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania, and was noted for his benevolent and charitable disposition. Mrs. Miller was born in that county October 27, 1860, and there our subject met her, while on a visit to Pennsylvania. She is the fourth in order of birth in a family of six children, the others being Mary, wife of Stewart Africa, of Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania; Rachel, who is at home with her mother; John, who succeeded his father in business; Rebecca, at home; and Thomas, who is living on the old homestead. To Mr. and Mrs. Miller were born eight children, namely: Lawrence A., who died at the age of twelve years; Celia J., Francis J., Ralphus A., Milton J., Mary R., Rachel and Rebecca.

Fraternally Mr. Miller is a charter member of the Independent Order of Mutual Aid; of Hebron Lodge, No. 175, K. P., in which he has filled most of the offices, and a charter member of the Knights of Maccabees of Dwight, and finance keeper of the same. He takes an active interest in the progress and growth of his town, and by his ballot supports the men and measures of the Republican party.

JOHN LEGGATE.

John Leggate, one of the highly honored and respected citizens of Germanville township, Livingston county, owns and occupies a well-improved and highly cultivated farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 10, and has most efficiently served as justice of the peace for many years. He was born in Lanarkshire, near Glasgow, Scotland, August 25, 1816, and is a son of James and Margaret (Dalgleish) Leggate, who spent their entire lives in that country. The mother died when our subject was only four years old, and the father afterward married Esther Cooper, also a native of Scotland. He followed the occupation of weaving throughout life and died at the age of forty-seven years. By his first marriage he had three childrlen, of whom our subject is the oldest. James, who is now living retired in Patteron, New Jersey, also followed weaving during his active life and has accumulated considerable property. He married Elizabeth Watson, of Scotland, and to them have been born six children. Robert, the other brother of our subject, served twenty years in the British army, and died at his home in Scotland at the age of fifty years, leaving a family of children, none of whom ever came to this country. By his second marriage the father had four children: Esther, George, William and William, all of whom died when quite young.

John Leggate was educated in the public schools of his birthplace, and in early life learned the weaver's trade with his father, following that occupation continuously until coming to the United States at the age of thirty-two years. In his native land he was married, December 29, 1837, to Miss Elizabeth Fleming, a daughter of John and Marian (Stuart) Fleming, life-long residents of Scotland. Her father was also a weaver.

In 1848, with his wife and children, Mr. Leggate sailed for America, and spent the first six years of his residence here in New York City, where he followed his trade three years, and also worked in a stained glass factory the same length of time. Subsequently he spent two years near London, Canada, where he was engaged in the manufacture of brick, and in 1857 came to Livingston county, Illinois. He had previously acquired some capital, being economical and industrious, and this he invested in land on section 10, Germanville township, where he now resides. As his financial resources have increased he has added to his landed possessions, and now owns two hundred and forty acres of land, eighty acres of which are on section 14, the same township. When it came into his possession it was wild prairie land, but acre after acre were soon placed under the plow, a comfortable residence was erected, good barns and outbuildings were also built and many other improvements made, so that it is now one of the most desirable farm of that section of the county.

Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Leggate only four are now living, namely: James, born in Scotland, is now a brick manufacturer of Chicago. He married Matilda Linn, by whom he had four children, two still living, Lillie and Mancel. His second wife was Anna Smith, of Chicago. (2) John, born in Scotland, is an engineer of Chicago. During the civil war he enlisted in Company D, Eighty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, but was wounded shortly after entering the service and honorably discharged. He married Nancy McKay and has three children, Rebecca, Lizzie and Maggie. (3) Walter, a farmer of Germanville township, is represented on another page of this work. (4) Sarah is the wife of Owen McMahon, who operates our subject's farm. Of those deceased, Marion died in Scotland when quite young. Margaret married John Beckman, of Germanville township, and died in Iowa, at the age of twenty-seven years. Robert, born in Scotland, was a member of the same company as his brother John, and served until the end of the war. He married Mary Sherman and died at the age of thirty-eight years, leaving two children, Viola and Etta. George, born in Scotland, married Dora Lutson and lived in Germanville township for some time, but spent his last days in Iowa, where he died, leaving four children, Nancy James, Viola and Martha. Archie died in Germanville at the age of four years.

Since becoming an American citizen Mr. Leggate has affiliated with the Republican party, and has taken quite an active interest in public affairs. Since 1869 he has most creditably and acceptably filled the office of justice of the peace, and at different times has held all of the township offices, being school treasurer twelve years. Upright and honorable in all things, he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, whether public or private, and is accounted one of the most valued and useful citizens of his community. In religious faith he and his family are Presbyterians. His estimable

wife died in May, 1893, at the age of seventy-eight years, and was laid to rest in the Germanville cemetery. He is now practically living retired, surrounded by a large circle of friends and acquaintances, who esteem him highly for his sterling worth.

ADAM SHAFER.

Adam Shafer, who resides on section 27, Chatsworth township, has been a resident of Livingston county since 1863. He was born in Koor, Hessen, Germany, September 26, 1847. His father dying when he was but an infant and his mother marrying again, he was reared by an aunt until twelve years of age, when he went to live with his mother and step-father, Jacob Gabriel. In 1857 the family came to the United States and located in Tazewell county, Illinois, where they remained for five years, and in 1863 moved to what was then the southern part of Chatsworth township, but is now Germanville township. On the farm of his step-father our subject grew to manhood, in the meantime receiving a limited education in the public schools. From the time he was old enough to follow a plow he had to do his share of the farm work, and therefore he became a thorough, practical farmer. When twenty-one years old he left home and for the next three years worked as a farm hand, during which time he saved up the greater part of his earnings and was enabled to commence farming for himself.

In December, 1870, Mr. Shafer was united in marriage with Miss Kathrina Neiding, who was born in Germany in 1845. She came to this country when twenty-three years of age, after the death of her parents. She had one brother and three sisters in this country, but of the five her brother John and her sister Martha are the only ones now living. The latter is the wife of Henry Brents, of Brule, Nebraska. The former is engaged in farming in Chatsworth township. To Mr. and Mrs. Shafer were born nine children, two of whom died in early childhood. Those living are Christ, a prosperous young farmer in Chatsworth township, who is married and has three children. He is living on his father's farm in that township. Lizzie is the wife of Henry Klehm, and they have two children. They reside on a farm in Ford county. Katie is the wife of Philip Keosner, and they live near Chenoa, McLean county. They have one son. Edward, Charles, Bertie and Lena yet remain at home with their father, the sons assisting in the farm work, while the daughter attends to the housekeeping.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shafer continued to reside on rentd land in Germanville township for five years, during which time he succeeded in accumulating sufficient means to purchase eighty acres of partially improved land in Chatsworth township, south of the city. To that farm they removed, and here he has continued to reside until the present time. From time to time he added to his possessions until he now owns two hundred acres on section 27, one hundred and twenty acres on section 23 and one hundred and sixty acres on section 16, Chatsworth township, all of which is under a high state of cultivation. When twenty-one years old he had to face the world, a young man without means and the owner of not an acre of God's green earth, but by industry and the help of his wife, and also that of his children in later years, he is now possessed of a competency and can have no

fear of the future. During the greater part of the time in which he has been accumulating his wife was in ill health, and for much of the time under the care of a physician. He never went into the field without fear in his heart for the good wife at the house. Notwithstanding her illness she was to him a true helpmeet and an inspiration, and no sacrifice but was cheerfully made to secure her happiness. By her cheerful disposition and loving counsel she assisted him in the toils of the day. The improvements on his farm, including the residence, and the barns, the fences, the tiling and the orchard, is the result of his own labors, and he has reason to be proud of what has been accomplished. For a number of years he owned and operated a corn sheller and a thresher, which added materially to his income.

On the 24th of April, 1899, Mrs. Shafer passed from her earthly cares to the haven of rest. In the old country she was a member of the Lutheran church, but after her marriage she united with the Evangelical Association, with which body she remained a faithful and consistent member until her death. She was a loving wife, a kind mother and a deserving Christian woman, beloved by all who knew her. With the hope of a restoration to health she was taken to a hospital in Chicago, and there underwent a severe surgical operation, but it was without avail. Death claimed her, but she was ready to go. During her long illness she bore it all uncomplainingly, and when the dread summons came she was ready, having an abiding hope in her blessed Savior, and with the full assurance that in the home beyond she would meet her loved ones, for they are all followers of the meek and lowly one. In her life she was an earnest and willing supporter of the church, and when able a worker in the Sunday school. Her life was a life of good works, and it can well be said of her, "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, for they shall rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

Like his wife, Mr. Shafer is a member of the Evangelical Association and a firm believer in the Christian religion. Politically he is a Republican, but he is not an office seeker. Time and again has he refused local office that would be forced on him by well meaning friends. His taste, however, did not run in that direction. He preferred to attend to his duties as a husband and father and to his farm work. However, he served as a school director for several years, but only for the reason that he was interested in the public schools and the cause of education. He is a citizen deservedly held in high esteem.

REV. GEORGE HERTLEIN.

Rev. George Hertlein, who is now living a retired life in the village of Cullom, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Bavaria, Germany, November 30, 1849, and is a son of Lawrence and Mary Hertlein, both of whom were natives of the same country and there spent their entire lives. They were the parents of three children, one of whom, Christ, died in 1897, at the age of forty-five years. Elizabeth lives in Bavaria, and George is the subject of this sketch.

George Hertlein grew to manhood in his native country and was educated in the parochial schools, supplemented by a four-years' course in a theological seminary, preparing for the ministry. He was graduated from the seminary and ordained to the min-

istry in his native country. In 1877 he came to the United States and located in Iowa City, Iowa, where he served as assistant pastor of a church for six months and was then called to the church at Sharon Center, Iowa, and for two years served as its pastor, filling the duties of the sacred office to the entire satisfaction of his parishioners, while enjoying the confidence of the community at large. He was then taken sick with inflammation of the lungs and was compelled for a time to abandon the ministry. While yet residing in his native land he served three years and a half in the German army, and his disability dates back to that time. A half-brother, Rev. Lorenz Schorr, preceded him to the United States, coming in 1861. He died in 1871, and our subject took up the work where his brother left off.

In 1878, about one year after his arrival in this country, Mr. Hertlein was united in marriage with Miss Mary Laubpender, a native of Ohio, born in 1856, but who was then living in Sharon Center, Iowa, where the wedding ceremony was solemnized. By this union ten children have been born, two of whom died in infancy. Of those living, Sophia is now the wife of Professor L. Sheldahl, professor of history and languages in the Iowa Synod College, at Waverly, Iowa. They have one child, Guido. Emma, at the age of eighteen, graduated from Iowa College, having taken the classical course. Matilda, Mary, Amelia, Ruth and George are attending school in Cullom. Hans is the youngest of the children.

When compelled to relinquish his charge at Sharon, Iowa, Mr. Hertlein embarked in the mercantile business at that place, in which he remained some years. He was also commissioned as postmaster and served as such until 1883. Regaining his health, he notified the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Iowa, with which he was connected, that he was again prepared to take up his life work, and receiving a call from the church at Cullom, he moved to the place and for six months engaged in his chosen calling. He soon found that it would be impossible to continue in that work, and, resigning, again entered into the mercantile business, carrying a general stock. Purchasing a lot, he erected a building and commenced what proved a successful mercantile career. In 1896 he sold out his stock, having in the meantime, by good management and the exercise of good business ability and sound judgment, acquired enough of this world's goods to enable him to live in comfort. He has now one hundred and twenty acres of land in Indiana and one hundred and sixty acres in Sullivan township, Livingston county, together with some village property. In 1897 he erected on his business block a good two-story brick building, well suited to the wants of the place, and which adds materially to the business section of the town.

When Mr. Hertlein came to Cullom it had only about one hundred inhabitants, and to him much of the credit is due for the advancement it has made in population and wealth. He assisted in securing the tile factory for the place, and went into partnership with F. A. Ortman in the business, and they together operated it for seven years with good success. In 1898 he sold his interest to Mr. Ortman, since which time he has lived a quiet, retired life, giving his attention only to his farm and his village property.

In politics Mr. Hertlein was a Democrat

until 1896, since which time he has voted independently of party lines. For two terms he served as treasurer of the village, and was elected village trustee, but after serving six months he resigned. He also served as a member of the school board for several terms, and while no the board he succeeded in having consolidated districts No. 6 and 7, and also secured the erection of a fine school building, which is an honor to the place. The first class to be graduated from the school was in June, 1900, and his daughter Mary was one of the graduates.

Mr. Hertlein was reared in the Evangelical Lutheran church and has ever been an earnest advocate of its doctrines and its polity. Since 1883 he has served as an elder in the church, and until recently he was treasurer of the church in Collum. When he came to the church as its pastor there was a debt of thirteen hundred dollars on the building and he made it his first duty to clear that, which he did in a short time by securing subscriptions from its members and friends. He later assisted in the erection of the parsonage, and since the death of its last minister he has had the financial management of it, and has placed it in good financial condition. He has always taken an active interest in the Sunday-school work, and is at present superintendent of the school and also serves as teacher. Active in whatever he undertakes, he has met with uniform success in all things, and to such as he the general welfare of a community depends. All esteem him as a true Christian, a successful business man and a good citizen, one having at heart the best welfare of the community in which he lives.

J. E. BANGS.

Joseph Edward Bangs, a well known educator of this state, and the subject of this sketch, was born in Bureau county, Illinois, and is the seventh in a family of eight children, five of whom are now living. His parents were Samuel L. Bangs and Margaret (Howard) Bangs.

The father was a native of Massachusetts, where his ancestors had resided since 1624. They were originally from England. Our subject's paternal grandfather served in the Revolutionary war and Professor Bangs is therefore a veritable "Son of the Revolution." In the '50s Samuel L. Bangs came to Illinois and settled in Bureau county, but later moved to La Salle county, which was his home for nearly forty years. He died in 1898 at the ripe age of ninety years, having seen Illinois transformed from a wilderness to a garden. His wife, who is still living, was born in England. She belongs to the well-known Howard family and is a direct descendant from the Duke of Norfolk. She possesses an unusually bright intellect and now, at the age of eighty-one, is an interesting and lovable character.

Mr. Bangs is essentially a self-made man. His boyhood was spent on the farm in La Salle county, where he early learned self sacrifice and endurance through the discipline of hard work. At seven years of age he was put to driving a team, at nine he drove a four-horse reaper, at fourteen he was making a "hand," regularly, binding behind a McCormick harvester. From earliest boyhood he was a great reader and ever anxious to secure an education, but, for many years, necessity compelled him to be content with the schooling which the three months winter school afforded. By studying at

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MRS. J. E. BANGS.

night and by improving odd moments, however, he was able to keep up with his more fortunate companions, who could attend school the year around. From the age of sixteen he earned his own spending money, paid for his clothes and books, and later made his own way through school.

On leaving college, he immediately began to teach, and after several years of successful experience, he took the rigid four days' examination for a state license. This he successfully passed and received the state's seal upon his ability as an instructor in the form of a state certificate, good for life.

In the same year he took charge of the schools of Washburn, Illinois, where he established a course of study, doubled the enrollment of the high school, drawing in pupils from outside the district until one-half of the high school was composed of tuition pupils, who brought into the district enough money to pay a good teacher's salary. He was especially successful in holding the boys in school and in sending his graduates to college. Here he graduated a class composed entirely of boys, nearly all of whom later entered college. His school became the inspiration of the schools of the county, while the results of the influences for higher education which he set at work among the people, can scarcely be estimated.

After four years at Washburn, Mr. Bangs was called to a wider field of action at Fairbury, where he remained eight years, as superintendent and principal of the city schools, and a similar result is found. During his administration, while the city increased but a few per cent, in population, the average daily attendance of the high school increased over one hundred and fifty per cent. A large increase was also found in the amount of tuition received. At the close of his work his patrons declared, "He left the schools on a practical and firm basis, second to none in the state."

In 1894 Fairbury reluctantly yielded Mr. Bangs to Pontiac, where the building of a township high school had opened a larger field for the exercise of his executive ability. Here his practical methods, his capacity for details and his organizing talent brought the school very soon into a creditable and conspicuous place among the educational institutions of Illinois. Every year has shown a marked increase in the power and popularity of the school,in the amount of the tuition received from foreign students and in the enrollment of boys. In 1900 there were enrolled one hundred and fourteen boys and one hundred and four girls, and a class composed of thirteen boys and six girls was graduated, while over twelve hundred and fifty dollars tuition was collected outside of the thirty-six miles of free territory. During the six years of Mr. Bangs' administration he has collected and paid into the township treasury between five and six thousand dollars of tuition money. If the same average increase continues, it can be expected that the high school building will be paid for by outside tuition in a little over a score of years. The best test of any school is found in what its product accomplishes after leaving school. Judged by this test, the township high school stands in the front rank. Its graduates are making a good record. In six years fifty graduates have become teachers and as many more of its undergraduates. A large number have gone to college and an unusually large number are succeeding in business.

By conscientious effort, the grade of the school has been steadily raised until the institution is now recognized by our leading

colleges and universities and has a place upon their lists of accredited schools. It is doubtful if any township high school in the state has made a better record in the first six years of its existence than the Pontiac high school under the direction of Mr. Bangs. He has ever been found faithfully discharging his duties in the least pretentious positions as in the most important ones and his efforts have invariably benefited the school permanently. It has been well said that "few men naturally possess the executive ability and talent for organization that we find in Mr. Bangs." This is amply proven by the fact that he has built up every school with which he has been connected.

In addition to his work as principal and superintendent, during the past sixteen years, Mr. Bangs has spent from three to twelve weeks of his summer vacations, each year, as an institute instructor or conductor, so that his name is a familiar one in many counties of the state, and he has justly achieved the reputation of being a strong institute worker. In one county he has been engaged twelve consecutive years.

Few men count more friends among their fellow workers than does Mr. Bangs, for teachers recognize in him an earnest, sincere, loyal, helpful co-laborer—one who is working for the best in education everywhere. This was markedly shown by the resolution of endorsement for state superintendency given him by the Teachers' Association of Livingston county, in 1898. This resolution was seconded by teachers of every political party and unanimously adopted with cordial enthusiasm. Mr. Bangs is an ardent Republican, and ever has been, but he never lets party come before principle and where he is known he commands the respect of all parties.

He was for several years president of the Livingston County Teachers' Association; has served in an active manner on various committees in the state associations; was vice-president of the Northern Illinois Teachers' Association in 1896, and is now—1900—one of the vice-presidents of the Illinois State Teachers' Association.

In 1898 Mr. Bangs was urged by his friends to become a candidate for nomination for state superintendent of public instruction. Being engaged in teaching, he made no canvass, but the race he made was declared by old politicians to have been most creditable. Starting with but twenty-seven pledged votes, by the time the first ballot was taken he had three hundred and sixty-five recorded for him. A prominent paper in speaking of the convention, said: "No candidate ever overcame odds more rapidly or made friends faster than did Mr. Bangs. His headquarters were always crowded. Had he started on equal terms with the successful candidate there is little doubt but that he would have been nominated."

Mr. Bangs is deeply interested in all the great moral, social and economic questions of the day and is ever ready to help in any good cause. He has been a teacher in Sabbath school nearly all his mature life, was for some seven years superintendent of one, and is a regular attendant on divine service. He is a stockholder and director in the Pontiac Summer Chautauqua and has interests in other public enterprises.

The principal fraternal societies claim him as an active member. He belongs to the Woodmen, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, the various orders of Masonry and has passed through the "chairs" and been presiding officer in the majority of them. He is past commander of St. Paul commandery,

Knights Templar, a member of the grand commandery of Illinois and of the Past commanders' Association of Chicago. He was active in working up the uniform rank, K. P., in the county and was successively elected first lieutenant, then captain of division No. 63, and later, in 1893, he was unanimously elected lieutenant colonel of the Third Regiment, Uniform Rank, K. P., which is composed of companies located at Joliet, Seneca, Lemont, Ottawa, Kankakee, Mazon, Streator, Pontiac, Peoria, Fairbury. In 1897 he was re-elected to this office and has been for nearly eight years a field officer of the Illinois brigade. In each of these positions he has served his brethren well and faithfully, and they, in turn, have shown their appreciation on various occasions, by testimonials of esteem and confidence.

Mr. Bangs is a member of the Marquette Club and also of the Hamilton Club, both of Chicago, and takes an active part in advancing their interests. Without exception, those who know Mr. Bangs best have always said, "He is the right man in the right place," and if his friends were to name his leading characteristics they would say, "Executive ability, industry, kindness, honesty and strict integrity." Some one has said of him, "Having successfully fought his own way through the difficulties which beset the poor boy's path, he is eminently fitted to sympathize with others similarly situated and to guide them to a like profitable course of action." As Mr. Bangs is yet in the prime of life we may expect still greater service in the years to come.

Mr. Bangs was married August 1, 1894, to Margaret R. Maloney, daughter of Dr. N. V. and Anna (Krater) Maloney, of Washburn, Woodford county, Illinois, of which her father was one of the pioneers and prominent physicians. Both parents are now dead, the father dying in 1892 and the mother in 1898. Mrs. Bangs is a graduate of Monticello Seminary and was valedictorian of her class. She was a remarkably successful teacher, her work being in the grammar school at Washburn, as superintendent of schools at Rutland, La Salle county, for seven years, as principal of the Fairbury high school, with Mr. Bangs as superintendent, and also in the Pontiac township high school.

Mrs. Bangs was also a successful institute instructor, and was at one time the Republican candidate for county superintendent of schools in Woodford county. Her popularity as a teacher was great and many a boy and girl marks a mile stone in true progress from the time they came under her influence. Some one has said, "She thinks of every one else first, herself last, or not at all." She is a member of the Presbyterian church, a teacher in the Sabbath school, an officer in the county Sunday school organization, secretary of the Associated Charities and an active sympathizer with the unfortunate everywhere. She is a woman of excellent literary attainments, is a ready writer, an able critic, has occasionally contributed to leading periodicals and has assisted in the preparation of several text-books.

JOSEPH BROWN.

Joseph Brown, a prominent farmer, who owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of valuable land on section 19, Pleasant Ridge township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Camillus, Onondago

county, New York, September 7, 1840. His father, John Brown, was born in Edinburg, Scotland, January 2, 1810, and when twenty years of age crossed the broad Atlantic and settled in Onondago county, New York, where he worked on a farm for a time. There he married Rebecca Conklin, a native of Fulton county, New York, and they continued to make their home in Onondago county until 1856, when they came to Peoria, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming until the spring of 1868. On our subject purchasing a tract of wild prairie land in Eppards Point township, Livingston county, he came with him and made his home there with our subject in Pleasant Ridge township until his death, which occurred November 27, 1897. The mother, who was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, died in 1852.

The greater part of the early education of our subject was obtained in the schools of New York, though for a short time he attended school in Peoria. In early life he worked by the month as a farm hand for six years. On the 2d of August, 1862, he joined the boys in blue as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Twenty-second New York Volunteer Infantry, and went first to Washington, D. C. He participated in the battles of Antietam, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Gettysburg, Mine Run, and the engagements in the Shenandoah valley, being with Sheridan at Winchester, Strasburg and Fisher's Hill. They then joined Grant's army at Deep Bottom, and from that time until the close of the war were near the Potomac. Mr. Brown was in the front line of battle when Lee surrendered and participated in the grand review at Washington, being mustered out July 2, 1865.

Returning to Peoria, he worked in the coal mines there for two years, and then purchased a farm of eighty acres in Eppards Point township, Livingston county, upon which he made all of the improvements, but in 1883 he traded that property for his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Pleasant Ridge township, which at that time was only partially improved. He has since thoroughly tiled the place, using from twenty-five to thirty thousand tiles, has planted an orchard and erected a good residence and barn, so that he now has one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. Every foot of space is now available for cultivation. Besides this valuable farm Mr. Brown owns another one hundred and sixty-acre tract in Ford county, all of which has been acquired through his own well-directed and energetic efforts since 1865.

On the 24th of October, 1865, Mr. Brown married Miss Emily L. Archdale, of Peoria. Her parents, William and Sarah (Lacey) Archdale, who were born, reared and married in Yorkshire, England, came to the United States in 1837, being among the pioneers of Peoria. The father died there August 15, 1870, the mother November 1, 1872. To Mr. and Mrs. Brown were born eight children, namely: William L., born December 6, 1866, is a resident of Ford county, and has filled the office of school director. Alice M., born October 29, 1869, is ow the wife of Edison Howe, of Windom, Minnesota, and they have three children: Joseph, born February 16, 1894; Francis, born June 22, 1898; and Harry, born December 7, 1899. Charles R., born November 24, 1872, lives in Ford county.

He married Nellie Day and has two children: Emily P., born November 5, 1897; and ora, born September 20, 1899. Joseph, born March 26, 1878, is living at home and serving as school director. Edwin, born February 6, 1881, and Florence, born May 19, 1883, are both at home.

Mr. Brown is a member of Fairbury Post, No. 75, G. A. R., and attends and supports the Methodist Episcopal church. In his political views he is a Republican, and has filled the offices of road commissioner and school director, serving in the latter position ten or fifteen years and always taking a deep and commendable interest in educational affairs. In all the relations of life he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, and has manifested his loyalty and patriotism in days of peace as well as in time of war.

CONRAD TRECKER.

Among the representative business men of Livingston county none are more deserving of representation in this volume than Conrad Trecker, the well-known tile manufacturer of Odell, who, through his own well-directed efforts, has gained a comfortable competence that numbers him among the substantial men of his community. He was born in Prussia, Germany, October 2, 1850, a son of Theodore and Elizabeth (Franken) Trecker, natives of the same place where the father followed the carpenter's trade, which he had learned when a young man. In 1852 he brought his family to America and first located in Peru, Illinois, where he lived four years, later making his home in Mendota, and following his trade in each place. In 1868 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Union township, Livingston county, which he developed from raw land into a good farm and which he successfully operated until his death, dying in 1886, at the age of sixty-three years. He was a self-made man, having no capital when he came to this country. In politics he was a Democrat, and in religious views both he and his wife were Catholics. She died in 1897, at the age of sixty-nine years, and the property in Union township was then divided among the children. The family consisted of the following named: William, a shoemaker of Cabrey, Illinois, died in 1884; Conrad is next in order of birth; Peter, a farmer, died in Union township in 1881; Joseph is engaged in farming in that township, and owns a half interest in the tile works of which our subject has charge; Katrina is the wife of Charles Sieberg, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Elizabeth is the wife of John Cheslie, of the same city; Ellen died at the home of her sister in Kankakee, in 1887; Christina is the wife of Peter Kettwich, of Peru, Illinois; and Theodore is the owner of a machine shop in Milwaukee, having learned the trade when young.

Conrad Trecker received only a limited common-school education, and during his boyhood he worked at farming and at the carpenter's trade with his father. After the latter purchased a farm our subject devoted his entire time and attention to its cultivation until twenty-two years of age, and then commenced operating rented land on his own account. He was married, in 1875, to Miss Nettie Meyer, who was born near Sandwich, Illinois, September 29, 1855. Her parents, Henry and Elizabeth Meyer, natives of Germany, moved to Livingston

county when she was but a small child. She was the eldest of their eight children, the others being William and Herman, both farmers of Union township, Livingston county; Albert, of Odell township; Adeline, wife of George Miley, of Odell; Martha, wife of William Bowers, of Odell; Norman, who died at the home of his father in Iowa, in 1898; and Frank, a resident of Sunbury township, Livingston county. The mother is deceased, but the father is still living and makes his home in Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Trecker have been born the following children: Theodore, who assists his father in his business; Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Katie and Nettie, both at home; Joseph, who died April 30, 1900; Addie, at home; Henry, who died in infancy; Annie, Mary and Conrad William, all at home. The children have had the advantages of a high-school education.

After his marriage Mr. Trecker continued farming and also managed and owned a corn sheller and threshing outfit. He commenced handling machinery at the age of eighteen years, and met with excellent success in that branch of his business, doing more work along that line than any other man in the community. He still owns an interest in an outfit, but does not personally attend to the business. In 1881 he purchased eighty acres of land in Union township, which he sold two years later on his removal to Odell, and bought a half interest in the old brick and tile yard, then operated by horse power. New buildings were erected, steam power put in, as well as patent kilns, and the manufacture of tile was carried on on an extensive scale for five years. During the following two years Mr. Trecker engaged in the hardware and implement business, and at the end of four years he and his brother Joseph purchased the tile factory, which he now conducts in a most profitable and satisfactory manner, doing a business which has amounted to as much as twenty thousand dollars per year. In the meantime he added to his land possessions until he now owns two hundred and eighty acres of land, all under cultivation, and now divides his attention between tile manufacturing and farming. When he started out in life for himself he had no capital, but being a good manager, he has met with excellent success in his labors, and he is today one of the substantial citizens of his community. For the past three years he has given considerable attention to the raising of brown Swiss cattle for dairy and beef purposes, owning some of the first brought to this part of the country. They were purchased by him at Roberts, Illinois, being imported stock from Switzerland. Mr. Trecker is a Democrat in politics, but has never found time to accept or hold any office. He and his family are members of the Catholic church of Odell, and he is also connected with the Mutual Aid Insurance Company.

HERMAN E. SIEGERT.

No better illustration of the characteristic energy and enterprise of the typical German-American citizen can be found than that afforded by the career of this gentleman, the well-known proprietor of the electric light plant of Dwight, Illinois. Coming to this country with little capital except his abilities, he has made his way to success through wisely-directed effort and he can

now look back with satisfaction upon past struggles.

Mr. Siegert was born May 26, 1830, in Neudam, Badenburg, Germany, in which country his parents, Gotlieb and Sophia (Siegert) Siegert, spent their entire lives. His father was a paper manufacturer of Neudam-by-Custrin, where he was born, and he inherited the factory from the grandfather of our subject. He did quite an important business, which he continued up to the time of his death. He died in 1836, at the age of forty-five years, and his wife departed this life in 1861, at the age of about sixty-one. There were two other children in their family, namely: Amelia, who married and died in Germany; and Hannah, who is the wife of Frederick Miller, a printer of that country, near the old home.

Herman E. Siegert, the only son, remained with his mother until twenty-two years of age. At the age of sixteen he commenced learning the miller's trade at Quartshan, where he spent four years, and then worked as a journeyman miller and millwright in various places for seven years. In June, 1857, he sailed from Bremen on the Asia, a sailing vessel, which, after a voyage of seven weeks, landed him in New York. He proceeded at once to Chicago, and from there to Somonauk, Illinois, where he was engaged in erecting a steam gristmill for a Mr. Bliss, and remained in that town for two years, working at the carpenter's trade. From there he went to Morris, Illinois, where he engaged in building a mill and operating it for five years.

While there Mr. Siegert was married, in October, 1863, to Miss Magdalene Bornman, a native of Hohenvard, Saxon Wimer, Eisenher, the place where Martin Luther was imprisoned. She came to America with her cousin and lived with relatives in Morris, Illinois, until her marriage. By this union were born seven children, of whom five live, namely: Sophia, who was born in 1864, and is now the wife of Leonard G. Hahn, a grain dealer of Dwight; George, who was born in 1865, and is now a resident of Los Angeles, California; John C., born in 1868, and Henry E., born in 1870, who now have charge of their father's business; and Herman C., born in 1872, a minister of the Lutheran church at Pipe Stone, Minnesota; Anna and Mary, twins, born in July, 1869, died at the age of about six months.

On leaving Morris, Mr. Siegert moved to Channahon, Will county, Illinois, where he leased a gristmill and successfully operated it for two years and a half. On the 1st of April, 1867, he came to Dwight, and in company with Michael Hahn bought the old stone mill at that place, where he carried on business in partnership for ten years, at the end of which time Mr. Siegert purchased his partner's interest and operated it alone until 1891, when he put in an electric light plant, the first in Dwight. As the latter business increased in importance and the demand for more light, he gave up milling at the end of three years and converted the old stone mill into his present electric light plant. This is supplied with a Corliss engine of one hundred and seventy-five horse-power, three dynamos, one for arc and two for incandescent lights, there being thirty arc lights used in the town and twelve hundred incandescent lights. His sons, John C. and Henry E., now attend to the active business.

Mr. Siegert has a comfortable home in Dwight, erected by him in 1871. In poli-

tics he is independent, and in his social relations is connected with the Independent Order of Mutual Aid. He and his family hold membership in the Lutheran church, and he has ever taken an active part in its work, serving as an officer of the church for many years. For the success that he has achieved he deserves great credit, it being due entirely to his own industry, perseverance and good management, and he has not only won a comfortable competence, but has secured the high regard of all with whom he has come in contact by his upright, honorable life. He spent the spring of 1900 in visiting old friends and the familiar scenes of his boyhood home in Germany.

ENNO FLESSNER.

Enno Flessner, who is engaged in the general mercantile business in the village of Cullom, Livingston county, has been a resident of the county since 1888. He was born in Ostfriesland, province of Hanover, Germany, February 15, 1856, and is a son of Joannes and Almuth Flessner, both of whom were born in the same province and there spent their entire lives. They were the parents of five children, of whom one died in childhood. Helena is the wife of Jerre Gulmers, and they live in Charlotte township, Livingston county, where he is engaged in farming. Gretchen died in the old country. Enno is the subject of this sketch. Herman died in Germany. The father was reared to the mercantile business, which he followed during life and in which he met with gratifying success. He was also the owner of a farm, which was operated by hired help, he devoting his time to his mercantile business.

The subject of this sketch was reared in his native country and received a good high-school education. At a very early age he entered his father's store, and when not in school was generally assisting in the store. At the age of twenty he went into the army and served three years with his regiment in Berlin. Returning home at the expiration of his term of service, he there remained until 1883, when he resolved on emigrating to the new world.

Leaving his native land, Mr. Flessner crossed the ocean and came direct to Livigston county, Illinois, to first visit a sister. He remained here for two years, and then went to Iroquois county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming for two years. While residing in that county, in 1886, he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Ricken, a native of Illinois, born in 1865, of German parents. Six children have come to bless their union:—John, George, Alma, Fred, Charles and Marie. The four first named are attending the public schools of Cullom.

After his marriage, Mr. Flessner continued on the farm in Iroquois county until 1887, when he returned to Livingston county and located in the village of Charlotte, where he formed a partnership with Mr. Bruns erected a store building and put in a general stock of merchandise. The business was conducted one year by the firm with good success, when Mr. Flessner sold out to his partner, and in 1888 moved to Cullom, where he rented a building and put in a small stock of goods. As the volume of his trade increased he enlarged his stock, and now carries a very complete line of dry-goods, groceries, ladies' and gents' furnishing goods, queensware, and in fact everything contained in a general store

suited to the wants of the community. He has met with gratifying success and has a trade of which the more pretentious merchants of a larger town might well be proud. He owns a neat, modern residence, which he has lately erected, and is acknowledged as one of the leading and successful business men of the place, one worthy of the confidence and respect in which he is held.

In politics Mr. Flessner is a Republican. He has been a member of the town board for several terms, and as a member of the board has taken advanced views in everything where the best interests of the people were at stake. He was on the committee on permanent sidewalks and advocated the policy of having the best suitable for the place. In the spring of 1900 he was elected a member of the school board. He is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran church of Cullom, and has been one of its trustees, and is now serving as treasurer of the church. Interested in the work of the church, he has always contributed generously of his means for its support.

JOEL WALLACE WHITMIRE, M. D.

Joel Wallace Whitmire, M. D., of Forrest, Illinois, is one of the leading physicians of Livingston county and surgeon for both the Wabash and Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw Railroads. He was born in Metamora, Woodford county, October 25, 1851, and is a son of Dr. James S. and Sidney (Robinson) Whitmire. The father was born in Virginia, in 1821, and in childhood removed to Ohio with his parents. The grandfather Whitmire was a tanner and currier by trade, and on his removal from Sidney, Ohio, to Virginia, Cass county, Illinois, took with him a stock of leather, which he converted into boots and shoes for the early settlers. As a minister of the New Light church, he also preached at that place for some time. Later he became identified with the Christian church, and always took an active part in church work. His last days were spent in Johnson county, Texas.

Our subject's father, Dr. James S. Whitmire, began the study of medicine with Dr. Kyle, of Macomb, Illinois, and later was graduated at the old Illinois Medical College, in Jacksonville. In 1846 he settled at Metamora, Illinois, where he engaged in practice until 1851, when he took his degree at Rush Medical College, Chicago. He returned to practice in Metamora, and later took a third course at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. During the Civil war he served as assistant surgeon with the Sixth Illinois Regiment of cavalry one year, and was then transferred to the Fifty-sixth Illinois Infantry as surgeon of Greene B. Raum's regiment, with which he remained until after the battle of Vicksburg, when he took charge of his brother's private practice, allowing the latter to go to Springfield and serve as examining surgeon. He was one of the most prominent physicians and surgeons of his section of the state, and was also a prominent charter member of the Woodford County Medical Society and the North Central Medical Society. The State Medical Society had only been organized a short time when he joined it, and he has served as its vice-president a number of times, and was president for the first two, and an extensive writer for medical journals throughout life. Socially he was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Ma-

sonic order. He died in July, 1897. On the 4th of July, 1846, he married Miss Sidney Robinson, a native of Morgan county, Illinois, and a daughter of Joel Robinson, an early settler of that county, formerly of Ohio, where the families had been intimate. The Robinsons were also from Virginia. At his death the father of our subject had three living children.

Dr. Joel W. Whitmire acquired his early education in the schools of Metamora and later attended the Soldiers' College at Fulton, Illinois, and then Eureka College for two years, finishing the junior year. He commenced the study of medicine with his father, and took his first course of lectures at Rush Medical College, Chicago, in the winter of 1874-5, graduating from that noted institution in the spring of 1877. It is a peculiar fact that the father had two brothers who read with him and graduated from the same school, and also three sons and one nephew. The other sons were Dr. Clarence L., who was engaged in practice at Sublette, Illinois, and later at Waverly, Iowa, where he died; and Dr. Zachariah Lincoln, of Urbana, Illinois, who died in 1899. After his graduation our subject was engaged in practice with his father for eight years, and then came to Forrest, where he has successfully followed his chosen profession for fifteen years, being acknowledged one of the best and most skillful physicians and surgeons in the eastern part of the county. For some years he has been surgeon for the Wabash and Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw Railroads, and his duties were quite arduous when their shops were located in Forrest. He is also a member of the examining board for pensions, of which he is treasurer; has been a member of the board of health some years, and was the first to inaugurate the strict quarantine of certain contagious diseases. He is examiner for all the old-line life insurance companies doing business in Forrest, and for a time was engaged in the drug business at that place. Fraternally he is an honored member of the Woodford County, the North Central and the State Medical Societies.

In September, 1877, Dr. Whitmire married Miss Laura Northcott, of Christian county, a relative of Lieutenant-Governor Northcott, and to them have been born two children, Mary Maude June and Sidney. The family have a beautiful home in the west part of town, and attend the Christian church, of which Mrs. Whitmire is a member. The Doctor affiliates with the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He joined the last named fraternity at Matamora and was past grand there. In politics he is an ardent Republican, and has frequently been a delegate to different conventions of his party, including the state conventions, and has served as a member of the township board.

HON. MICHAEL CLEARY.

Hon. Michael Cleary, who is represent-in the twentieth district as a member of the General Assembly of Illinois, and who for more than a quarter of a century has represented his township as a member of the county board of supervisors of Livingston county, was born in Clonmell, county Tipperary, Ireland, February 9, 1840, and is a son of Philip and Mary (Hefferman) Cleary, the mother being a cousin of Colonel Hefferman, of Bloomington, who served on the staff of Governor Altgeld.

Philip Cleary was a farmer in county Tipperary, Ireland, on a place which had been the home of the family for many generations. Hearing so much of the great United States, and with that laudable desire to better provide for his family, he emigrated with them to this country in 1840, landing at Philadelphia on the 25th of May, our subject being then but a few months old. From Philadelphia he went direct to Youngstown, Ohio, where he found employment, with others, in digging the Hocking Valley canal. He remained at Youngstown one year and then came to Illinois, locating at Spring Creek, now Spring Valley, Bureau county, where he engaged in farming. In 1845 he moved to Grundy county, Illinois, and was working on the Illinois canal when it was opened up the second time. He continued to work on the canal until its completion, in 1848, when he located near Ottawa, La Salle county, and again resumed farming.

While residing in Bureau county Philip Clarey hauled his grain to Chicago with oxen. There were there no bridges and all the streams had to be forded. The grain was development of the home farm and in due the wagon the more easily and carried across the sloughs when the oxen stuck in the mud. Clothing for the family was all home-made, and all were thankful for what they could get. The family were among the first Catholics to locate in Bureau county, and they had to go to Peru to attend religious services. While residing in Ottawa, in 1861, the mother died, and in 1868 the father came to Livingston county and made his home with our subject until his death, in 1884. He was a firm believer in the Catholic religion and gave liberally for the support of the Catholic church.

When the family moved to Ottawa our subject was about eight years old. From that time on he was of assistance in the time was thoroughly conversant with the details of farm work. He was educated in the schools of Ottawa, but the broad general information which he now possesses was principally obtained in the school of experience. Like a dutiful son, he remained at home and assisted his parents until he was twenty-one years old, when he began life for himself, and that his life has been a successful one is fully attested by the record here given.

On the 14th of August, 1865, Mr. Cleary was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Burke, of Sandwich, Illinois, but a native of county Tipperary, Ireland, and daughter of Jeffrey Burke, who was also born in county Tipperary. By this union ten children were born, all of whom are yet living. William P. is now a druggist in Odell, Illinois. Hon. John M. graduated from the law department of the Wesleyan University, of Bloomington, with the degree of LL. B. He is now one of the leading attorneys of Kansas City, Missouri, and is a member of the legislature of that state. Katherine, Alice, Ellen and Lillie are each graduates of the best convent schools of the country. Frank, Albert, Joseph and Leo are engaged in farming. All of them have had good educational and other advantages.

Immediately after his marriage Mr. Cleary rented a farm near Ottawa, Illinois, and engaged in general farming and stock raising. With limited capital, but with unbounded courage and steadfast determination, he began farming, and in three years he accumulated means sufficient to purchase a farm for himself. In 1868 he came to Livingston county and purchased the south half of section 1, Odell township, and at

once began its improvement. The land was in its virgin state and the first thing necessary was the erection of a house for his family. This done, he set out a hedge fence, broke the ground and cammenced tilling the soil. That first three hundred and twenty acres he yet owns, but he has added to his possessions until he has thirteen hundred acres in the vicinity, all of which it under the highest state of cultivation. Being a broad guaged man he has ever been willing to learn and to adopt any theory or suggestion that seemed best, and which would increase the value of his farm and possessions. He constructed the first ditches for draining in his vicinity, and also laid the first tile, hauling the same a distance of fifteen miles. In 1879 he moved "out of the old house into the new." At that time he built and now occupies one of the finest houses in Livingston county, and which, when erected, was far superior to any. The large elegant parlors, with their furnishings, would grace a modern city home.

Mr. Cleary has also one of the finest barns in the state, which was erected about the same time that his house was built. It is occupied by grain bins and by his horses, being used for cattle, while the second story is occupied by grain bins and by his horses, and the third floor for agricultural implements and hay. He has bins for six thousand bushels of oats, and from the bins, by means of spouts, the grain is carried to the basement. He has also large cribs for corn, of which a great quantity is always kept on hand for feeding purposes.

While carrying on general farming Mr. Cleary has been especially interested in the importation and breeding of the best grades of cattle and hogs. He had the first Poland China hogs in the county, and did much to secure the general introduction of this breed, to the great benefit of all farmers. He always has upon his place a large number of short-horned cattle, which he feeds and prepares for the market. He has been one of the most successful farmers in the county, being thoroughly progressive in all things. While others complained of the times and of Providence, he worked, and the result is plainly to be seen. In addition to his Livingston county property he owns a half-section of well improved land in Iowa, and a full section in South Dakota.

In politics Mr. Cleary has always been a Democrat and since he attained his majority he has always taken an active interest in political affairs. He has never been able to see the necessity of leaving political affairs to the professional men and to the ward politician, but believes that every man should take such interest in public matters as will elevate politics and make better citizens. Since coming to Livingston county he has had large influence in moulding public opinion and in the dissemination of Democratic principles. He has served on the county central committee of his party and has repeatedly been a delegate to its state conventions. In 1892 he was one of the Cleveland electors and had the honor of being a member of the electoral college that elected a president, an honor that comes to but few.

Although in a Republican township Mr. Cleary, in 1874, was elected to represent it as a member of the board of supervisors, and from that time to the present has been continuously re-elected, and is now the oldest member of the board in point of service. His influence on the board has always been felt and for many years he served as its president. When not chairman of the general board he has usually served as chairman

of some of its most important committees. During his first year the erection of the present court house of the county was commenced, the old building having been destroyed by fire July 4, 1874. He has been chairman of the county farm committee, and of the public property committee, and in every position he has acted for the best good of the public. Under the new revenue law creating a board of public review, he was chairman of that board in 1899.

In 1882 Mr. Cleary was elected a member of the legislature and was re-elected in 1884 and in 1886. During his first term he introduced into the house the present farm drainage law, which was supported in the senate by Hon. George Torrance. In 1885 he secured the passage in the house of a bill to regulate charges in the stock yards, which was known as the stock yards bill, but it was defeated in the senate, for the reason that that body seemed more friendly to corporations. In 1887 he secured the passage of the game bill for the protection of wild fowl, which bill passed the senate and became a law. After an interval of ten years Mr. Cleary was again nominated by his party and was elected to the legislature. In the session of 1898-99 he introduced a bill into the house limiting the rate of interest in the state to five per cent. The monied interests were too strong for him and the bill failed of passage. It will be seen, however, that when a member of the General Assembly Mr. Cleary was an active one, and all his acts were in the interest of the people. His principal work has been in the committee room, but whether in committee or on the floor of the house he has always exerted a commanding influence.

Realizing the benefits of a good education Mr. Cleary has always been a friend of the public schools, and for many years served as a member of the school board, and it is safe to say that his influence was always for the general good and for improved methods. While Catholic in religion, he is liberal in his views, and is willing to grant to others the same liberty he asks for himself in religious affairs, and he numbers among his strongest friends those of the Protestant religion. For the erection of churches he has ever been a liberal contributor, it mattered not what the denomination represented. He is a member of St. Paul's Catholic church of Odell, and was the treasurer of the committee of five who built and paid for the church before even a priest had located there. He was one of the first members of the Catholic church in his vicinity. His wife and family are also members of the same church.

For nearly a third of a century Mr. Cleary has been a citizen of Livingston county, and no man within its borders is better known, or who has more earnest, steadfast friends. With few advantages in his youth, and starting in life for himself with very limited means, he has labored early and late, in sunshine and in shade, until to-day he is numbered among the most prosperous residents of the county, surrounded by all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, and more than all, by a contented and happy family, a loving wife, who has been a helpmeet indeed to him, and children helpful to him as age creeps on. In the years that have pasesd he has not selfishly given his entire time and best energies to the material welfare of himself and family, but has given much time and his best thoughts to the general good of the community in which he has lived. As a member of the county board of supervisors,

and legislative halls, he has made his mark, and the confidence and respect in which he is held by those who know him best is attested by his continual re-election to office. A thorough, progressive and energetic farmer, a wise legislator, a good, substantial citizen and a faithful friend, such, indeed, is Hon. Michael Cleary, of Livingston county.

AARON JAMES BENNETT.

Aaron James Bennett, a representative farmer of Avoca township, Livingston county, was born in the house now occupied by him, February 28, 1865, and is a son of John and Rachel (Shaw) Bennett, both of whom were born in Cape May, New Jersey, and in early life moved with their respective parents to Ohio, but after spending one winter in that state the families went to Indiana, settling near Rossville. It was there that the parents of our subject were united in marriage, and there the father began a successful career as a farmer and also did teaming from Chicago to Lafayette, Indiana. In 1852 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and rented land in Avoca township for three years. He then purchased one hundred and twenty acres of government land, which is now a part of the old homestead farm. By hard work and untiring perseverance he converted this wild tract into a fine farm, adding to its value by erecting modern buildings, fencing, tiling and otherwise improving the same. He also purchased other land until he now owns a half-section, which has nearly all been improved by himself or under his direction. In 1888 he purchased a comfortable home in Fairbury, where he now resides, and where his wife died in 1890. In politics he is a stanch Republican, and being a well-educated and popular man, has been elected to numerous offices in his township, serving as collector some time, supervisor six years, and trustee of the school district a number of years.

The subject of this sketch is the seventh in order of birth in a family of eight children, the others being as follows: Sarah, who lives with her father in Fairbury; Marian, wife of Joshua Mills, of Springfield, Illinois; W. Scott, also at home; John E., a resident of Thawville, Illinois; George H., a resident of Bell Prairie township; Emma, wife of John Mitten, an employe of Walton Brothers, of Fairbury; and Mary D., at home.

Aaron J. Bennett attended the district schools near his boyhood home, also took a course in the public schools of Fairbury, and later was a student at Onarga for a few months. He grew to manhood upon his father's farm, assisting in its operation until he attained man's estate, and he now rents the place, being successfully engaged in the cultivation of two hundred acres. He is also interested in stock raising, which he finds quite profitable.

In 1888 Mr. Bennett was united in marriage with Miss Clara Davis, who was born in Ohio in 1868. Her parents, Eben and Dorothy (Maurice) Davis, still reside in that state. Clara is the oldest of their four children; Rose is the wife of Fred Liedolf, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Edward is a resident of Lima, Ohio; and Harry is a member of the Fourth United States Infantry, and is now with the army in the Philippines. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett have two children: Walter R., born June 20, 1889; and Rachel

D., born July 22, 1890, are both attending the district school.

By his ballot Mr. Bennett supports the men and measures of the Republican party and is an active worker at the polls, looking after the voters of his district. For nine years he served as school director, as school trustee two years, and was then appointed school treasurer, which position he now holds. He has never sought office, but when elected has served the people faithfully and well. He is upright and honorable in all his dealings and supports church work, being a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Fairbury, as is his wife. Fraternally he is a member of the Mutual Aid Society of Fairbury.

THOMAS J. O'CONNOR.

Thomas J. O'Connor, a well-to-do and successful farmer residing on section 6, Germanville township, Livingston county, is a native of Illinois, born in La Salle county, March 19, 1861, and is a son of Timothy and Margaret (Murphy) O'Connor. The father, a native of Ireland, came to the United States at the age of nineteen, and lived for some years in New York state before coming to Illinois. He engaged in farming near Ottawa, La Salle county, until the fall of 1868, when he moved to Livingston county, taking up his residence in Charlotte township, where he purchased a farm of eighty acres. Later he added to it until he had one hundred and sixty acres, and successfully engaged in its operation for some years, but is now living a retired life in Chatsworth, where he located in the spring of 1892. He made all of the improvements upon his place and transformed the wild land into a highly productive farm. His wife is still living, as are also five of their six children, our subject being the oldest.

During his boyhood and youth Thomas J. O'Conner attended the public schools, and remained at home with his parents, assisting in the work of the farm, until they removed to Chatsworth. He served as clerk of Charlotte township seven years, and always took a deep and commendable interest in public affairs. In the spring of 1892 he removed to Germanville township and bought the farm of one hundred and sixty acres which is now his home. He has since made many improvements on the place, and has one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. He is now serving as town clerk of Germanville, and has already become prominently identified with the interests of that section of the county.

On the 26th of October, 1887, in Chatsworth, Mr. O'Connor was united in marriage with Miss Julia Murphy, a daughter of Patrick Murphy, of La Salle county, who is now engaged in farming in Chatsworth township. Four children bless this union, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Emmet, April 17, 1889; Vera, December 27, 1890; Lucile, April 2, 1892; and Julia, September 8, 1898. The first two were born in Charlotte township, the others in Germanville township.

THOMAS ANDREWS.

Thomas Andrews, of Pontiac, Illinois, is now living a retired life in the enjoyment of a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves by reason of his industrious efforts of former years. Accom-

plishment and progress ever imply labor, energy and diligence, and it was these qualities which enabled our subject to rise from the ranks of the many and stand among the successful few. He is one of the highly respected citizens of Pontiac, and his long residence in Livingston county and the active part he has taken in its development well entitle him to representation in its history.

Mr. Andrews was born in Stamford, Lincolnshire, England, October 16, 1844, a son of James and Elizabeth (Plowright) Andrews, natives of the same place. In 1855 the family emigrated to the United States and located near Tonica, La Salle county, Illinois, where the father worked and rented property for some time until he accumulated enough to purchase land, experiencing all the hardships and trials of pioneer life. On landing in this state he had but five dollars remaining and a wife and six children to support. They received twenty-five dollars at Cleveland, sent them by Mrs. Andrews' sister, but, having lost the address of the man who was to identify him, Mr. Andrews found considerable trouble in securing the money. It was during the panic tha the located here, which made it much more difficult for him to secure a start, but after a few years of hard work he was able to purchase three hundred and twenty acres of wild land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company by having enough money to pay the interest on the amount, but going in debt for the principal. He would shell corn with a small sheller, and after hauling it to Gridley over very bad roads would only receive ten cents per bushel for the crop. Steadily and persistently he worked his way upward to success, paying for his place and transforming it into a fine farm, with good and substantial buildings surrounded by trees, while the land was placed under a high state of cultivation. He engaged in stock raising in connection with farming and became quite well-to-do, though he at first thought he would feel independent if he ever got a good team of his own. He was recognized as one of the leading men of his community, and was called upon to serve as highway commissioner, school director and fill other local offices of honor and trust. Religiously he was a Congregationalist. He died upon his farm August 6, 1883, leaving a family of nine children, of whom our subject is the oldest. He gave each of his sons forty acres of land, which they have since traded so that it might all belong to a few of them. The mother died October 30, 1899. She would have been seventy-four years of age had she lived until the following February.

Thomas Andrews received his education in the schools of his native land, his school days being over when he came to this country, for, being the oldest in the family, he was obliged ti help in their support. On account of his youth he was discouraged from entering the army during the civil war. He remained with his parents until past the age of nineteen years and then went to Eureka, Illinois, where he worked four months. Returning to Tonica, La Salle county, he rented land, and while there was married, May 1, 1866, to Miss Mary E. Brady, a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Moore) Brady, natives of Brown county, Ohio, of which her paternal grandfather was one of the pioneers. Her grandfather, Moses Moore, spent his entire life there as a farmer, and there her parents also died, the mother when Mrs. Andrews was only two months old, and the father a few years

later. He was a blacksmith by trade. She was raised by an aunt, with whom she came to Tonica, Illinois.

Of the seven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Andrews, three died in infancy. Those living are James H., a business man of Gridley, Illinois, who married Minnie Settle and has four children, Thomas, Amy E., Henry and an infant; Sarah Ann, who married H. U. Grant, of Ellettsville, Indiana, and has one child, Delos Andrews; Susan Elizabeth, who married Joseph Solon, of Graymont, this county, and has four children, Florence, Helen, Duane and Evaline; and Mary Evaline, who is teaching in the public schools of Pontiac. The children all received good educations, the father having left the farm and moved to town for that purpose.

In the fall of 1868 Mr. Andrews bought eighty acres of land in Rock Creek township, which he improved and paid for in six years, and then sold, buying one hundred and sixty acres of land east of Pontiac in 1875. This land was entirely unimproved and very wet, on which account it was considered very undesirable property, but he tiled it and to-day has one of the best farms in Pontiac township. He erected thereon a good residence, substantial outbuildings, set out shade trees, and made many other improvements which add greatly to its value and attractive appearance. Leaving the farm, which he still owns, he moved to Cayuga, where he was successfully engaged in merchandising for some years and a resident for eleven years, but since 1893 has lived in Pontiac, having built a pleasant residence on North Main street. He has owned property in Cayuga, but sold it, and now has two hundred acres of improved rich land near Hamlet, Indiana, not far from South Bend. In improving two farms for himself and aiding in the development of his father's place he has materially advanced the interests of his adopted county and promoted its prosperity. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and are honored and highly respected by their fellow citizens who appreciate their sterling worth and many excellencies of character.

WILLIAM E. HOKE.

William E. Hoke, a well-known real-estate dealer of Odell, Illinois, was born in Williamsburg, Pennsylvania, October 2, 1856, a son of Samuel and Laura N. (Kenney) Hoke, and a grandson of Jacob Hoke, who was of old Pennsylvania stock and a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The father was born in McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania, April 12, 1824, and when a young man learned the trades of cabinet-maker and painter at Gettysburg. In 1859 he brought his family to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased a farm four and a half miles southeast of Odell.

On that place our subject grew to manhood and atended the common schools of the neighborhood. Being injured at the age of fourteen years and unable to engage in active labor, he entered the Odell high school two years later, and later engaged in teaching school. At the age of twenty-to years he became a student at Lincoln University, Lincoln, Illinois, but his health failed before he had completed the course and he was obliged to give up study. He then taught school until twenty-four, when he was appointed postmaster at Emington, during President Hayes' administration, at

which time the town was started, and he completed the second building in the place, opening a hardware store there. He also named the town in honor of the wife of the owner of the land on which it was located, her name being Emma. As the first postmaster he installed the office and got it in good running order, but at the end of two years his health again failed and he was compelled to resign his office and sell his business. He had built up a good trade and was doing a successful business. He then went to Pella, Iowa, for Herbert Spencer & Company, to open a hardware store for Van Houten Brothers.

While there Mr. Hoke was married, March 23, 1882, to Miss Sophia Robinson, who was born in La Salle county, Illinois, March 25, 1860, and was there reared and educated. Her father, James Robinson, of Peru, Illinois, was also a native of La Salle county, a representative of one of its oldest families, and spent his last days on the homestead taken up from the government. Mr. and Mrs. Hoke had three children: Laura M., who was born April 13, 1882, and died at the age of two years; Harry Harvey, born January 13, 1884; and Albert E., born October 4, 1885. The sons are still in school. The name of Harvey is an old one in the family, it being the maiden name of Mrs. Hoke's maternal great-grandmother, who traced her ancestry back to Lord Harvey.

After eight months spent in Iowa, Mr. Hoke returned to Livingston county, Illinois, and rented his father's farm near Odell for three years. He met with success in his farming operations, but was crippled by barbed wire, which resulted in blood poisoning, and he lost all he had in his efforts to save his life. In 1888 he located in Odell, where he has since engaged in the real-estate business, and has been remarkably successful in that undertaking. He has handled a large amount of western property in Iowa and Minnesota, and his patrons, who are mostly his friends, have been well satisfied with their investments. He has sold many thousand acres of land, in one year disposing of twenty-one thousand acres, and has secured good homes for hundreds of people, whom he has sent to those states. Since buying a home for himself in Odell he has invested every dollar he could get in western lands, and now has over one thousand acres in two different tracts in Wright and Hancock counties, Iowa. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man, of progressive ideas and indomitable enterprise, and his success is certainly well deserved, for he has had many difficulties to overcome. In politics he is a strong and active Republican, and has served as a member of the school board, though he cares nothing for political honors. Religiously he supports the Congregational church.

WILLIAM H. TAYLOR.

William H. Taylor, the present well-known and efficient highway commissioner of Dwight township, and a resident of the town of Dwight, has through his own exertions attained an honorable position and marked prestige among the representative men of his community, and with signal consistency it may be said that he is the architect of his own fortunes, for he started out in life for himself at the age of nine years and has since made his way in the world unaided.

Mr. Taylor was born in Lancastershire,

England, March 9, 1843, a son of James and Betty (Mills) Taylor, also natives of Lancastershire, where the father followed the blacksmith's trade for many years. In early days during the gold excitement in California, he came to America and crossed the plains to the Pacific slope, where he spent two years, meeting with fair success in his mining operations. His brother-in-law, Robert Mills, who went with him to California, died a millionaire in that state a couple of years ago. After returning to England from California Mr. Taylor brought his family to the United States and located in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he worked at his trade for the Pennsylvania railroad many years. There he spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of seventy-six years. His wife survived him about two years. They were the parents of eight children: Elizabeth, William, John, Rachel, Ellen, James, Charles and Della, all of whom reached mature years and all are still living with the exception of James. Our subject is the only one living in the west, the others being still residents of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania.

William H. Taylor was a mere lad on the emigration of the family to America. He attended school at Pittsburg, but at the age of nine years he commenced earning his own livelihood, and ever afterward supported himself. In early manhood he went to Indiana, and worked on a farm in De Kalb county for a few years. From there he went to Chicago, where he found employment in the stock yards about two years, after which he returned to his old home in Pennsylvania and remained there about a year, when he again went to Chicago and worked in the stock yards a year. In 1866 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, in the employ of a Mr. McPherson, for whom he had worked in Chicago, it being his intention to remain only thirty days, but he has now been here over thirty-three years. He continued to work for Mr. McPherson four years.

On the 10th of December, 1868, Mr. Taylor married Miss Lydia H. Grub, a native of Blair county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of David Grub, who never came west. To our subject and his wife were born four children, namely: William J., the eldest, who is engaged in farming in Dwight township, married, first, Maggie Jenkins, who died leaving one child, Rebecca, and for his second wife he married Catherine Debby Morris. Charles and Annie are both at home. The youngest, a daughter, died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Taylor rented his present farm in Dwight township for several years, and in 1873 purchased twenty acres, to which he later added until he now owns eighty acres, all now within the corporate limits of the town of Dwight. Formerly he gave considerable attention to the raising of stock, making a specialty of thoroughbred animals, and for a number of years he dealt in stock, selling principally to the local shippers.

Religiously Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically he is identified with the Republican party. He was a member of the village board during the Dwight boom, and for the past sixteen years has most efficiently and satisfactorily served as road commissioner of Dwight township. With one exception he has built all the bridges in the township, and has made many other improvements along that line. He is public-spirited and progressive, and takes an active part in all enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit.

THOMAS HUGHES.

Thomas Hughes, now living a retired life in Dwight, Illinois, is a man whose successful struggle with adverse circumstances shows what can be done by industry and economy, especially if a sensible wife seconds his efforts to secure a home and competence. Born of poor parents, he was obliged to make his way in life without any of the aids which are usually considered essential [illegible]

Mr. Hughes was born in county Mayo, Ireland, in 1841, a son of Thomas and Mary (Dowd) Hughes, who spent their entire lives in that county, the father being employed as a herder on a large estate. Our subject left home at the age of thirteen years and came to the United States with his uncle, James Hays, who was mate on a sailing vessel. He landed in New York and from there went to Long Island, where he found employment with a farmer and market gardener near Flushing. His employer was a Mr. Bayton, a Pennsylvanian by birth, and with him Mr. Hughes remained until he attained his majority, receiving little more than his board and clothes for his seven years' labor. At the age of twenty-one he went to New York City, where he worked as a laborer for two years, and in 1864 he came to Chicago, where the following two years were passed, during which time he assisted in laying the pipes for the city water works. He next found employment at the docks unloading vessels, and followed that occupation for five years.

On the 25th of December, 1868, in Chicago, Mr. Hughes married Miss Margaret Higgins, a daughter of Francis and Mary (Brady) Higgins. To them have been born seven children, namely: Francis, now an electrician of Seattle, Washington; John H., who married Julia Dunn and lives on the home farm in this county; Nellie M., a successful and popular teacher of Livingston and Grundy counties; Emma, who is clerking in the store of Gordon Brothers of Dwight; Julia, a graduate of the Dwight high school, and now a successful teacher; and two who died in infancy.

In the fall of 1869, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes came to Dwight, where her father had located some four years previous. Here, in partnership with his brother-in-law, our subject engaged in farming for two years, and then rented one hundred and sixty acres of land from F. O. Caldwell in Round Grove township, operating that place nine years. In 1871 he made his first purchase of land, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres on the northeast quarter of section 23, Round Grove township, which was all raw land, entirely unimproved. Here he erected an humble home, sixteen by twenty-four feet, with a kitchen twenty by fourteen feet. He planted fifty acres of flax and broke all but six acres of his land the first year. During the ten years he resided thereon he placed the land under a high state of cultivation, and in connection with general farming engaged in stock raising, feeding usually from one to two hundred head of hogs. In February, 1889, he bought a tract of thirty-six acres of land just east of Dwight, and located there in order that his children might have better educational advantages. He lived there two years, cultivating his little farm, and in 1889 bought one acre of land in the village, upon which he erected his present beautiful home at a cost of five thousand dollars. It is one of the most elegant residences in the city. He has added to his landed possessions from time to time and now has three hun-

dred and sixty acres of valued and well-improved land. He is one of the successful citizens of the county and deserves much credit for what he has accomplished. Looking back through the vista of the past we see a friendless boy who came to the New World in search of home and fortune, at present we see his ambitious dream realized, and could the veil of the future be lifted we would doubtless see an honored old age crowned with respect and veneration which is accorded a well-spent life. In politics he is independent, and in religious belief is a Catholic.

WILLIAM L. QUINN.

William L. Quinn is one of the prosperous citizens of Strawn, who has laid aside all business cares and is now living a retired life. Success has attended his well-directed efforts and he is ot-day in possession of a comfortable competence which enables him to spend his declining years in ease and retirement from active labor.

Mr. Quinn was born in Ireland in 1842, and is a son of Charles and Unity (Lynch) Quinn, also natives of that country, born in county Tyrone. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, died there at the advanced age of ninety-four years. The mother had died at the age of twenty-four years, and for his second wife he married Jane Campbell, who is still living in Ireland at the age of seventy-five. By the first union there were three children, of whom our subject is the second in order of birth and the only survivor. James died at the age of twenty-four years, and one unnamed died in infancy. Of the twelve children born of the second marriage, seven came to the United States, three locating in Livingston county, Illinois, the others in Los Angeles, California. Michael crossed the Atlantic in 1869, and after six years spent in Ottawa, Illinois, took up his residence in Livingston county, where he at first operated one of our subject's farms and then purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 5 and 6, Germanville township. He is an industrious and prosperous farmer, and the father of six children. Alexander came to America in 1874, and also settled in Ottawa, Illinois, where he worked for E. Y. Griggs one year. He then settled on a farm on sections 7 and 8, Germanville township, owned by our subject, and there he continues to make his home. He owns eighty acres of land on section 8. He is married and has six children, four sons and two daughters.

The subject of this review was reared and educated in his native land, and in 1860, at the age of eighteen years, came to America. For twenty-three years he was in the employ of Andrew Lynch, a general merchant of Ottawa, Illinois, and at the end of that time, in 1883, came to Strawn. He worked on the farm with his brother Michael for one year, but since that time has lived a retired life in the village. In 1874, while still a resident of Ottawa, he purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 5 and 6, Germanville township, which at that time was all raw land and which was operated by his brothers. He made all of the improvements upon the place, including the erection of a commodious and pleasant residence in 1879, which at that time was one of the best in the county, and he also built a large barn and laid over fifty thousand tiles. In due time the land was all placed under a high state of cultivation. In 1880 Mr. Quinn bought one hundred and sixty acres of land

on sections 7 and 8, the same township, and also improved that place with the assistance of his brothers. Besides this property he has sixty-three acres on section 7, Germanville township, purchased by him in 1893, and now leased to a tenant, and one hundred and sixty acres of fine pasture land at Emporia, Lyon county, Kansas, purchased in 1881. The same year he bought a house in Strawn, which he has remodeled and made one of the best in the village. It is a beautiful place, surrounded by a large lawn, and neat and tastefully furnished. For about nine months Mr. Quinn clerked in the hardware and grocery store of Joseph Kuntz, in Strawn, but with that exception has lived retired during his residence here.

In Chicago, Illinois, February 20, 1884, Mr. Quinn married Miss Bridget Conlin, a native of Ireland, who came to this country in 1865. Her mother died in Ireland, after which her father emigrated to America and spent his last days in retirement from active labor in La Salle, Illinois, where he died at the age of eighty years in 1879. He had followed farming in his native land.

Although Mr. Quinn has been a resident of Livingston county only seventeen years, he has by the improvements of his property here been identified with its development for many years. As a Democrat he takes an active interest in political affairs, and gives his support to those enterprises which tend to advance the interest of his adopted country. He has served as trustee of the village of Strawn for fourteen years, and village treasurer nine years, and his official duties were always most faithfully and conscientiously discharged. Religiously both he and his wife are devout members of the Roman Catholic church, and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

WALSH BROTHERS.

Walsh Brothers, consisting of L. F. and T. M. Walsh, are the leading merchants of Campus, Illinois, carrying a large and well selected stock of general merchandise, furniture, hardware, agricultural implements, carriages, wagons, coal, lumber, lime, cement, and all kinds of building materials. They also do a large undertaking business, keeping a hearse and full equipments for the same. In size and quality of stock and character of the building, their department store would grace a much larger town, it being something not often found in a place the size of Campus, though Campus cannot be judged by the average Illinois village of three hundred population, possessing as it does a standpipe and good water works; a church and Sisters' school, both fine brick structures; and numerous elegant residences. The people are enterprising and progressive and give to the place an air of thrift. Walsh Brothers have an elegant and commodious two-story brick beuilding, fifty by eighty feet, with a basement, which was erected by them in 1897 to take the place of the old frame building recently destroyed by fire. Forming a partnership, they purchased the business of J. J. Foltz & Son, in 1891, and continued business at the old stand until it was reduced to ashes. Besides their store building they have another large building in which seasoned lumber is kept. They do an extensive business as contractors and builders, and have erected many of the buildings in Campus and vicinity, including nearly all those in the new mining town of Cardiff, where in the spring of 1900 they put up a large store, which will be conducted as a branch store of the one at Campus, and be in charge of J. H. Walsh, another brother.

Thomas M. Walsh, the junior member of the firm of Walsh Brothers, is a native of this county, born in Broughton township, February 15, 1866, and is a son of Patrick and Ann (Smith) Walsh, both natives of Ireland. The father emigrated to America in 1849, and six years later took up his residence in Livingston county, Illinois, being one of its early settlers and successful farmers. He is now living a retired life in Campus. In his family are nine children, namely: John P., a resident of Chicago; L. F., the senior member of the firm of Walsh Brothers; Kate E., at home; Thomas M., the junior member of the firm; Mathew, who is in the employ of his brothers; James H., who has charge of the branch store in Cardiff; Mary A., wife of William Mortison of Chicago; George C., who is with his brothers, and Blandina, bookkeeper for her brothers.

On the home farm Thomas M. Walsh grew to manhood, his early education being obtained in the common schools and the high school of Dwight. Subsequently he took a literary course at St. Viature's College, and a commercial course at Dixon College, from which he was graduated in 1890. The following year he formed a partnership with his brother L. F., as previously stated, and has since successfully engaged in active business at Campus. Fraternally he affiliates with Campus Camp, No. 2619, M. W. A., and politically is identified with the Republican party. He has served as postmaster of Campus since 1897; has filled the office of justice of the peace since 1892, and has been a member of the board of education for the past six years. As a business man he is wide-awake, progressive and energetic, and carries forward to successful completion whatever he undertakes, while as a citizen he has promptly and faithfully discharged every duty that has devolved upon him. On the 9th of February, 1892, he married Miss Maggie Steger, who was born and reared in Round Grove township, this county, a daughter of Christian and Louise Steger. By this union were born three children, namely: Francis Herbert, Clyde A., and Philomean, who died at the age of seven years.

L. F. Walsh, the senior member of the firm of Walsh Brothers, is also an enterprising business man of known reliability. He was born March 18, 1860, was reared on the home farm and attended in the local schools, completing his education, however, by a general course at the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, Indiana. He was married, November 27, 1896, to Miss Lena Flynn, a daughter of Patrick Flynn, and to them have been born three children, Viola, Leo and Bernice.

JAMES P. GOURLEY.

James P. Gourley, a representative farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Esmen township, residing on section 17, was born in Harrison county, West Virginia, October 8, 1860. His father, Alfred Gourley, was born and reared in the Old Dominion, and when a young man went to West Virginia, locating in Harrison county, where he married Rebecca Jane Farris, a native of that state. There the father continued to carry on farming for some years, but in 1865 moved to Livingston county, Illinois, where two of his brothers had previously located. He first came to the county in 1855, but soon returned to West Virginia and did not locate permanently here until ten years later, when

he purchased land in Amity township. He prospered in his new home, being a thorough farmer and good business man, and became the possessor of a valuable farm of four hundred and forty acres. Upon that place he continued to make his home throughout life, dying there May 30, 1898. His wife survives him, and continues to reside on the old homestead with her son Charley.

In Amity township James P. Gourley grew to manhood, and was educated in the country schools near his home. He assisted his father in the operations of the farm until nineteen years of age, and then worked on the farm of a cousin for two years. On the 24th of December, 1882, in Livingston county, he was united in marriage with Miss Ida Buren, who was born and reared in Grundy county, Illinois, and they have become the parents of seven children, namely: Ray, Fay, Clarence, Earl, Flavius, Florence and Edith. All are living with the exception of Fay, who died at the age of eight years, and the sons aid their father in carrying on the farm.

After his marriage Mr. Gourley located on the farm where he now resides, but after operating it for four years he moved to the Buren farm in Grundy county, in 1886, and lived there for the same length of time. In 1891 he returned to the farm in Esmen township, Livingston county, on which he now resides. Here he owns sixty acres, and also operates an adjoining one hundred and sixty acre tract belonging to the Gourley heirs, and eighty acres more near by. He also rents one hundred and sixty acres of pasture land. He owns a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres in St. Joseph county, Indiana, and in connection with his brother Charles has a piece of three hundred acres in LaPorte county, that state. In connection with farming he is engaged in stock raising, his specialty being hogs, but he also keeps a good grade of cattle, including some full-blooded registered Durhams. He is accounted one of the most successful farmers and stock men in his part of the county, and is numbered among its most reliable and progressive business men.

In politics Mr. Gourley is independent and cast his first presidential vote for Grover Cleveland, the Democratic nominee, his last for William McKinley, the Republican candidate. Fraternally he is a member of the Cornell Camp of Modern Woodmen, and he is held in high regard by all with whom he comes in contact either in business or social life.

ARTHUR MARSHALL.

Arthur Marshall, a prominent and representative farmer of Livingston county, was born near Sandy Hill, Washington county, New York, March 16, 1834, and died in Dwight, May 30, 1899. As his parents died when he was quite small, he remembered nothing of his mother and but little of his father. His early life was spent in western New York and Pennsylvania, and in 1857 he came to Illinois, locating first in Bureau county, but in March of the following year he drove across the country to Livingston county, where he continued to make his home until his death. He purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Union township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his energies until 1898, and in his farming operations was quite successful. He was a lover of good stock, especially horses, and he fed cattle and hogs extensively. In politics he was a strong Republican, very radical in his views, but would

never accept any public office whatever, saying that he would not be president if he was capable and the position was offered him. Until late in life he was a member of the Presbyterian church, but in 1895, with his wife, he united with the Congregational church of Dwight. As in other affairs he never would accept office, though he took an active interest in church and Supnday school work and was an efficient and and able leader in the Sunday school. He was noted for his kind and obliging disposition and was always willing to assist those in need even at an inconvenience to himself. Surely the life record of such a man is worthy of perpetuation and will be read with interest by his many friends and acquaintances throughout the county.

Mr. Marshall was three times married, first on the 24th of January, 1861, to Miss Mary Thompson, a native of Guernsey county, Ohio, and a daughter of Mitchell and Jane Thompson. At an early age she and her three brothers were left motherless. She came to Livingston county to keep house for two of them, William and Hugh, and the other, Jefferson, located here later. The first two were soldiers of the civil war, and after their return from the war lived in Union township, this county, but Hugh is now a resident of Pontiac, while Jefferson resides in Miles City, Montana. Mr. Marshall made the acquaintance of his wife while she was keeping house for her brothers, but she removed to her father's home to be married, and came as a bride to this county the second time. She died June 12, 1869, leaving three children: (1) William E., born October 8, 1861, died June 5, 1895. (2) Mary J., born January 23, 1864, is a graduate of the Dwight schools, and for some time was a teacher of Livingston county. She had charge of an Indian agency school in the west for a time, and was also connected with the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas, but is now teaching in Glendive, Montana. (3) Anna L., born October 14, 1866, is the wife of James W. McKinzie, of Glendive, Montana.

Mr. Marshall was again married, March 7, 1871, his second union being with Margaret G. George, who was born in Belmont county, Ohio, April 9, 1831, a daughter of John and Ann (Cross) George, the former a native of Ireland, the latter of Maryland. Being left an orphan, her father came to America at the age of nine years and grew to manhood in Ohio. He owned and operated a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Dwight township, this county, where he made his home until 1864, and then moved to Dwight, where his death occurred in 1872. He was a liberal supporter and active worker in the Presbyterian church, in which he served as elder for many years. In his family were twelve children, ten of whom grew to maturity, and four are still living, namely: Sarah A., widow of Benjamin Ogg, and a resident of Parker, Missouri; James C., a retired farmer of Washington, Kansas; Lizzie M., the third wife of our subject, and Rebecca, widow of Henry McDonald, of Algona, Iowa. Those deceased are as follows: Wm. C., born October 29, 1826, died November 29, 1826; Mary, born May 17, 1842, died the same day; Leathy, born October 5, 1835, married Jesse Cowgill, and died May 25, 1862, leaving two children, John McDaniel and Margaret A.; Priscilla, born October 12, 1829, married John Cowgill, of Guernsey, Ohio, where she died in 1868, leaving six children; John C., born October 19, 1833, served three years in the Union army during the civil war, and made his

home in Dwight township, this county, where he died September 17, 1899; Louisa, born June 15, 1837, died unmarried at the age of twenty-nine years and thirteen days; and Benjamin Cross, born May 22, 1839, married Ollie Burr, and died in Nevada, Illinois, in 1866, leaving two children, John and Mary. The father of these children was born December 25, 1796, and died August 12, 1877, while the mother was born May 25, 1804, and died May 25, 1885. Mrs. Margaret C. Marshall, the second wife of our subject, died January 10, 1887, leaving one daughter, Minnie M., now the wife of George Crandell, residing on the old homestead in Union township. They had three children, but Olive, born February 25, 1895, died April 27, 1897. Those living are Mary M and John M.

On the 29th of October, 1888, Mr. Marshall married Lizzie M. Brown, a sister of his second wife, who was an invalid for several years prior to her death, and Lizzie had made her home with them for two years. She was born October 23, 1844, and was first married May 7, 1868, to Edgar D. Brown, by whom she had four children, namely: Edgar C., a resident of Schoolcraft, Michigan; Frank, a soldier in Porto Rico; and Eleanora M., who is attending school in Peoria, Illinois. By her second marriage, Mrs. Marshall has one child, George A., born December 14, 1889. She has made her home in Dwight since 1898, and is highly respected and esteemed by all who know her.

PETER G. NELLIS.

Peter G. Nellis, who for many years was auditor of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, but is now practically living a retired life in Pontiac, Illinois, is a man whose worth and ability have gained him success, honor and public confidence. He enjoys the well-earned distinction of being what the world calls a "self-made man," and an analyzation of his character reveals the fact that enterprise, well-directed effort and honorable dealing have been the essential features of his prosperity.

Mr. Nellis was born in Fort Plain, New York, April 11, 1825, a son of Gerritt and Madeline (Ehle) Nellis, both natives of Palatine Bridge, New York. His paternal great-grandfather was a bishop of the Lutheran church, and a resident of Schenectady, New York. The maternal grandfather, Peter Ehle, was descended from German stock and was a farmer by occupation. When a young man the father of our subject moved to Fort Plain, of which place he became a well-known and prominent farmer. In religious belief both he and his wife were Lutherans. He died at Fort Plain, while his wife, who was born in 1800, died December 22, 1889.

Of the three children born to this worthy couple our subject is the oldest. He attended the common schools of his native town and completed his education by an academic course. He remained on the home farm until he attained his majority and about 1848 came west by boat from Buffalo to Detroit, by rail to Kalamazoo, then the western terminus of the Michigan Central Railroad, and from there crossed the lake to Chicago. After spending a short time in that city, he made a prospecting tour through northern Illinois and Wisconsin, and finally located in Lockport, Illinois, where he engaged in merchandising, being one of the first merchants of that place, which at that time was a competitor of Joliet.

Mr. Nellis spent two years in Lockport, and there he was married, February 21, 1850, to Miss Louise Jennison, who was born and reared in Dundee, Scotland, and is a daughter of Captain Robert and Susan (Clarke) Jennison, the former a native of Weymouth, England, the latter of Dundee, Scotland, here the family made their home until coming to the United States in 1846, at which time the father was a retired officer of the Royal navy. They located in Chicago, but later removed to Lockport, where Captain Jennison owned a section of land, though he never actively engaged in its operation. He spent his last days in Oswego, Illinois, where his wife also died. Mr. and Mrs. Nellis have three children: Gerritt John, a resident of Chicago; Rufus L., of Denver; and Mrs. Louise Slocum, of Pontiac.

After his marriage Mr. Nellis disposed of his business in Lockport and accepted the position of paymaster for the Illinois Central Railroad, then being built at Cairo. The rails were brought from England, and from New Orleans were towed up the Mississippi river on flatboats. He handled large sums of money for the road at a time when banks and checks were few and robbers plenty. He remained with the company during the entire construction of the road, General McClellan being chief engineer and later vice-president. After its completion Mr. Nellis served as the first agent at Vandalia, and later was transferred to LaSalle, being three years at each place. He was next appointed traveling auditor for the Chicago & Alton Railroad with home and headquarters at Chicago, receiving his appointment when Roswell B. Mason was president and general manager of the road, and J. C. McMullen general superintendent. He remained with the company thirty-five years, traveling the whole extent of the road, which in extent of time is unparalleled by any case in railroad history. He was also considered one of the finest accountants in the United States, and most acceptably filled the position of auditor until the retirement of T. B. Blackstone, the president, in 1900, though he is still with the road in a local way. For years he has made his home in Pontiac, where, in 1890, he erected the present residence where he now lives. He is widely and favorably known throughout the state and has a host of warm friends in his adopted city.

BENJAMIN BARICKMAN.

Benjamin Barickman, who resides on section 30, Newton township, is numbered among the pioneers of 1832, the date of his arrival being at the time of the celebrated Black Hawk war. He was a lad of eight years at the time, and has a vivid recollection of the stirring events of that day. He is a native of Adams county, Ohio, born December 11, 1824, and is the son of Daniel and Mary (Pitchenger) Barickman, both of whom were natives of Maryland, where they were united in marriage, and which was their home until their removal to Ohio in an early day. They made their home in Adams county, that state, until 1832, when they came to Illinois, making the journey in a large "prairie schooner" drawn by oxen. On their arrival they located on what is now section 30, Newton township, the farm yet being in the possession of our subject.

Securing his location, Daniel Barickman set about the erection of his house, the typical log cabin so well remembered by the

older residents of the county. At that time there were but few persons residing in what is now Livingston county, but prairie wolves, deer and other wild game were in abundance. Our subject has counted as many as fifty deer in one drove in the early day, and it was many years before they were all extinct in this section of the country. Prairie chickens were so numerous they at times destroyed the growing corn.

Daniel Barickman was a son of Daniel Barickman, a native of Germany, who came to this country with his wife early in their married life, locating in Maryland, which remained their home during the remainder of their lives. Daniel and Mary Barickman were the parents of nine children, Bartley, James, Prudence, Daniel, Harriet, Benjamin, Jacob, Mary Ann and Upton. Of these, four are yet living. Prudence, the widow of Wesley Bishop, is living in Webster City, Iowa. Daniel is living a retired life in the city of Streator, LaSalle county. Harriet is the wife of Preston Bishop and they make their home in Towanda, Illinois. The death of the father occurred when he was seventy-four years old, and the mother when she was seventy-one years old. In politics, he was originally a Whig, but later a Republican, and in political affairs he always manifested a commendable interest.

The first purchase of land by Daniel Barickman was of two hundred and forty acres on which he erected his cabin and at once commenced to improve. Not a furrow had been turned, and there was no sign of civilization. Indian wigwams were to be seen in the timber, and there was nothing but the Indian trail and the path made by the deer as they came out of the timber. Commencing the improvement of the place, he soon had quite a large tract under cultivation, and in due time he added to his original purchase and became a well-to-do farmer. He continued to reside on his original farm until his death.

The primary education of our subject began in the common schools of his native state, and soon after the arrival of the family in Livingston county his father employed a man named Button to teach school in an out-house on his place, and to that school he went, and later in a log school house erected about two miles from their home. There were yet no roads located and the children went through the timber to the school. In winter time it was very hard to make their way through the snow, which sometimes was very deep. An education, however, obtained under such circumstances is apt to be appreciated.

The early life of our subject was one of hardship. The farm must be improved, and every member of the family must do his part. With his parents he remained, assisting in the development of the place until he was about twenty-two years of age, when he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Latham, a native of Connecticut, and daughter of Lyman S. Latham, one of the early settlers of the county, who came from the Nutmeg state about 1845, locating in what is now Reading township. By this union eight children were born, of whom three—Augusta, Franklin and Benjamin—died in childhood. The living are: Daniel, a farmer of Newtown township; Prudence, wife of Joseph Coe, living in Chicago; Carrie, wife of Cephas Coe, living in Reading township; Charles M., county judge of Livingston county, residing in Pontiac; and Willis H., who is married and living on and operating the home farm.

After his marriage Mr. Barickman con-

tinued to reside on the home place, which he managed for his father for some years, and of which he later became the owner. To the original farm he added eighty acres, which he has since deeded to one of his sons. As a farmer he ranked among the best in the county, and was fairly successful. He continued to actively engage in the management of the farm until 1898, since which time he has been living a retired life.

For many years Mr. Barickman has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and for the greater part of the time he served his church as a member of the official board. He has always taken an active interest in church work, and is a strong believer in the teachings of the lowly Nazarene. In politics he was originally a Whig, with which party he was identified until its dissolution, since which time he has been an ardent Republican. He was never an office-seeker, but believed in every man doing his duty, politically, in the advocacy of the principles and the proper support of his party.

For sixty-eight years Mr. Barickman has been a citizen of Livingston county. As already stated, when he came here the country was almost an unbroken wilderness. Wolves, deer and wild game of all kinds was in abundance. One could scarcely look out from the door without seeing wolves or deer. His brother was a great hunter, and was considered the best shot on the river. Our subject was a hunter of no mean ability, and has in his time killed many deer in the vicinity of his home. He remembers on one occasion that a party of hunters were out with their hounds on a deer hunt, and one of the number shot a buck, which plunged into the river. The dogs were sent in after him, but the deer, fighting for his life, almost drowned the dogs before an end was put to his existence. Many anecdotes and incidents of pioneer life are related by Mr. Barickman, to the wonder and amusement of the younger generation. But in the almost three-score years and ten that he has lived in this county he has witnessed many changes indeed. He has seen the old plow, with its wooden mold-board, give place to the modern implement of steel, the sickle and the flail superseded by the reaper and the steam thresher; the log cabin replaced by the stately farm house with all the comforts of the nineteenth century. He has seen the coming of the railroad, the telegraph and the telephone. He has seen town and cities spring up, and churches and school houses find a place on almost every hillside, and in every hamlet. Aladdin, with his lamp, could never unfold greater wonders than he has witnessed since becoming a citizen of Livingston, one of the best and most prosperous of the counties in Illinois. In the improvements that have here been made he has borne his part, and he has a right to the years of rest which it is hoped that he may be able to enjoy.

JOSEPH O. ALBRECHT.

Joseph O. Albrecht, one of the foremost men of Waldo township, Livingston county, is a native of Illinois, born in Princeton, Bureau county, December 19, 1859, and is a son of John and Annie (Gacho) Albrecht, natives of Germany. In 1838, at the age of four years, John Albrecht was brought to this country by his parents, who settled in Bureau county, Illinois. In the early days of Chicago, the grandfather, Jacob Albrecht, hauled his wheat to that city from Bureau

county in a wagon which he hewed out of logs. Throughout life he followed farming, and at one time also owned and operated a brewery at Princeton. He died in 1877. In his family were eight children, five sons and three daughters, of whom two, Christopher and John Albrecht, are prosperous farmers living at Tiskilwa, Bureau county.

The father of our subject followed farming in Bureau county until 1865, when he came to Livingston county and bought the west half of section 3, Waldo township, for which he paid ten dollars per acre. Here he prospered, and at the time of his death owned seventeen hundred and twenty acres of land besides several business blocks in Flanagan. He died February 12, 1900, at the the age of sixty-six years, two months and twenty-two days. He was well known and highly respected, and had many friends throughout this section of the state. On the 8th of March, 1859, he married Anna Gacho, and to them were born the following children: Joseph O., our subject; August, who was born June 16, 1861, and died February 16, 1892; John, who was born May 12, 1863, and died February 21, 1885; Christopher, who was born December 24, 1865, and died October 20, 1890; Jacob, who was born February 20, 1869, and died April 16, 1889; and Benjamin, who was born November 23, 1871, and now resides in Waldo township, Livingston county. The mother of these children departed this life December 25, 1873, and on the 22d of November, 1874, the father married Barbara Nafciger, also a native of Germany, by whom he had eight children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Magdaline, September 18, 1875; Peter, February 17, 1877; Annie, March 5, 1879; Samuel, August 21, 1883; Lydia, July 5, 1886; William, September 12, 1888; and Daniel, February 16, 1894. The oldest daughter is now the wife of Peter Good, of Waldo township.

The early education of Joseph O. Albrecht was acquired in the public schools near his boyhood home, and under the able direction of his father he soon acquired an excellent knowledge of every department of farm work. He has made agriculture his life occupation, and now owns and operates a quarter-section of land on section 9, Waldo township, and also has eighty-two acres on section 2, besides one hundred and sixty acres in Iowa. He is a wide-awake, progressive farmer, of good business ability and sound judgment, and is meeting with remarkable success in life.

On the 10th of February, 1884, Mr. Albrecht was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie, daughter of Christopher and Mary (Ingold) Ringenberg, of Tiskilwa, Bureau county, and they now have one child, John W., born December 1, 1885. Mr. Albrecht has held several local offices and takes a keen interest in the welfare of his township and county.

JAMES E. GRAHAM.

James E. Graham, who is now living a retired life in the village of Long Point, and is efficiently serving as assessor of his township, has made his home in Livingston county for over a third of a century, having come here from near Wenona, La Salle county, in 1865. He was born at Port William, Clinton county, Ohio, in 1842, a son of Thomas B. and Elizabeth (Ellis) Graham, also natives of Ohio. The father was of Scotch ancestry, the mother of Ger-

man and English descent. When a young man Thomas B. Graham learned the trade of a millwright and cabinet-maker, which he followed throughout life, dying in Ohio in 1884. He left four children who reached years of maturity, namely: Lydia, who married Thomas Greer and died in Ohio about 1855; John W., an attorney and justice of the peace of Harrisonville, Cass county, Missouri; Asa A., an attorney and real estate dealer of Topeka, Kansas; and James E., the subject of this sketch. After the death of the father, the mother married Absalom Kinsey, by whom she had five children, but only two are now living: Isaac W., a farmer of Long Point township, Livingston county; and Malinda, wife of James Merrill, in the employ of the Union Tea Company at Champaign. In 1854 the family moved to Marshall county, Illinois, and a year later to La Salle county, where Mr. Kinsey followed farming, but both he and his wife spent their last days in Long Point township, Livingston county. She was born June 11, 1813, and died July 19, 1894.

James E. Graham was educated in the schools of La Salle county, and remained with his mother until he entered the Union army during the civil war, at the age of eighteen years. He enlisted as a private July 1, 1861, in Company C, Forty-fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and remained with his regiment all through the war, taking part in the battles of Pea Ridge, Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge, and in all the engagements of the Atlanta campaign. Although he had many narrow escapes, he was never wounded, and was never in the hospital but for a single night. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged as commissary sergeant September 26, 1865.

After being mustered out Mr. Graham located in Wenona, Illinois, and in 1866 came to Long Point township, Livingston county, where he has since made his home with the exception of one year. On the 29th of November, 1868, he was united in marriage with Miss Emma Long, who was born near Danville, Vermilion county, Illinois, November 30, 1843, a daughter of Reuben and Phema (Lucas) Long, natives of Ohio. Mr. Long was born June 18, 1813, and died September 29, 1885. He was of Irish and German and his wife of German and English extraction. She was born July 5, 1816, and is still living on the home place near Cornell. She became a resident of Vermilion county in 1831, her husband in 1839, and in 1852 they removed to Livingston county, being among the early settlers of Amity township. Both held membership in the Christian church, and has always affiliated with the Democratic party. In their family were eleven children, eight of whom are still living: Emma, wife of our subject; Clarissa, who is the widow of Ellis Kinsey and lives near Flanagan, Illinois; Orlean, who lives near Cornell, in Amity township; Joseph, who lives near Long Point; John (twin of Joseph), who is a carpenter and lives with his mother near Cornell; Charlotte, who is a widow and also lives with her mother; Lucretia, wife of Leslie Lawrence, living near Flanagan; and Samantha, wife of Charles Talbott, of Amity township. To Mr. and Mrs. Graham were born three children, of whom one died in infancy. Leon, born August 30, 1872, was educated at Eureka College, and is engaged in school teaching. He married Laura Filby, and has one son, Wilbur. Arvilla Mae, born October 7, 1876, is the wife of Louis Stilson, a prosperous farmer of Han-

cock county, Iowa, and they have two children, Gladys and Milburn.

After his marriage Mr. Graham took up his residence upon a farm in Long Point township, and successfully engaged in general farming until his removal to the village of Long Point in March, 1898, since which time he has practically lived a retired life. He purchased a pleasant home, and also eighteen lots within the corporation limits. In politics he is a pronounced Republican, and has served the people faithfully and well as constable; school director for several years, and assessor for the past five years. He is a prominent member of the Grand Army Post, No. 784, of which he is chaplain, and both he and his wife are active members of the Christian church of Long Point, of which he is an elder.

GEORGE WHITHAM.

George Whitham is a prominent business man of Cornell, where he is now successfully carrying on operations as a dealer in hardware, agricultural implements and grain. In all of his undertakings he has steadily prospered, his excellent success being but the logical result of his careful and correct business methods.

Mr. Whitham is a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, born near Wheeling, West Virginia, January 30, 1854. His father, Alexander B. Whitham, was born in Brown county, Ohio, and when a young man went to Washington county, Pennsylvania, where he married Martha J. Davis. In early life he folowed the shoemaker's trade, but later devoted his attention to agricultural pursuits. On first coming to Illinois, in February, 1857, he settled in Marshall county, and did not locate in Livingston county until 1876. Here he spent his last days on a farm and died October 22, 1886.

Our subject grew to manhood in Marshall county and was educated in the Lacon high school. After the removal of the family to Livingston county, he aided his father with the farm work, and continued to engage in agricultural pursuits in Esmen township, until coming to Cornell in 1893, when he purchased an established hardware and implement business, which he has since carried on with marked success. Since 1895 he has also dealt in grain and now ships large quantities from Cornell. He is one of the most active, enterprising and progressive business men in his section of the county.

On the 1st of October, 1879, in Esmen township, Mr. Whitham married Miss Emma A. Rhodes, who was born near Lake Geneva, in Walworth county, Wisconsin, her father, Leland M. Rhodes, being one of the pioneers of that county, and a native of New York. He brought his family to Livingston county, this state in 1876. Mr. and Mrs. Whitham have five children, namely: Milton A., Charles E., Mina May, Gracie and Carrie. Mrs. Whitham is a member of the Baptist church and takes an active part in the work of the church and Sabbath school. Fraternally Mr. Whitham is a member of the Modern Woodman Camp at the same place, and has served as clerk a number of years. In his political affiliations he has been a life-long Democrat, and has taken quite an active and prominent part in local politics. He has filled the office of assessor, collector, township clerk and president of the village board. In 1895 he was elected supervisor and has served as such for six consecutive years. Although he has not met with strong

GEORGE WHITHAM.

opposition he was re-elected by an increased majority at each election. He has most ably and satisfactorily represented his township on the board, has been appointed a member of a number of important committees, and is now chairman of the one on rules. His public and private life are alike above reproach, and he well deserves the success that has come to him.

EUGENE A. VAHEY.

Eugene A. Vahey, a popular conductor on the Wabash Railroad and a prominent citizen of Forrest, Illinois, was born in Mt. Carmel, Pennsylvania, August 31, 1851, and is a son of Eugene and Julia (Cosgrove) Vahey. The father was also a native of that state and a contractor on railroad work, doing an extensive business. He helped in the construction of the Erie Railroad, Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, and Lehigh Valley Railroads, but during the last twenty years of his life lived retired from active business. He made his home in Pittston, Pennsylvania, during the greater part of his life, and died there January 10, 1892, while his wife passed away September 15, 1882. Both were members of St. Paul's Catholic church of that place, and in politics the father was a Democrat.

Our subject was educated in the common and high schools of Pittston, and for two years was engaged in the grocery business at that place. Selling out his interest, he became connected with railroad work, in 1873, as brakeman on the Wyoming division of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, with which he was connected three years. He then went to Jersey City, New Jersey, and entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and remained with them until March 15, 1882, making up passenger trains in the yards at that place. Coming west, Mr. Vahey entered the service of the Wabash Railroad on the 27th of that month, as switchman at Forrest, Illinois, and six months later was appointed yardmaster, at a time when all freight stopped here. He served in that capacity until September, 1888, when he went upon the road as conductor, running at first from Forrest to Chicago. Later he was assigned to the Streator run, which is one of the best on the road, as he gets home every night. In point of service he and Mr. Stewart are the oldest employes of the Wabash Railroad living in Forrest, and have the entire confidence and respect of the company.

On the 25th of November, 1875, Mr. Vahey was united in marriage with Miss Mary J. Garrison, of Paterson, New Jersey, a native of that place and a daughter of David and Mary A. (Garrettson) Garrison. The father, who was a carpenter and a son of Henry Garrison, spent his entire life in that city, and Mrs. Vahey's maternal grandfather, Henry Garrettson, was also an old resident of Paterson. Our subject and his wife have two children: Marguerite, and Charles E., a teacher at Reading, Illinois.

Mr. Vahey owns a nice home and other property in Forrest. He has been very successful in business affairs, and was one of the promoters, incorporators and member of the first board of directors of the Forrest Building & Loan Association. Originally he was a Democrat in politics, but in 1896 voted for McKinley, and still affiliates with the Republican party. He served as city clerk one term, and as alderman of Forrest two years. Fraternally he is a prominent

and influential member of Wabash Division, No. 260, O. R. C., of which he has been secretary and treasurer, and was a representative to the conventions held in Atlanta in 1895 and Detroit in 1899. He has always taken a leading part in the affairs of his division. Mr. Vahey is also connected with Forrest Lodge, No. 614, F. & A. M., the Chapter and Commandery at Fairbury; and Olive Branch Lodge, No. 154, K. P., of which he has been chancellor commander and deputy grand chancellor of his district, instituting new lodges, including the one at Long Point, and installing the new officers at each election. In all the relations of life he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, and is justly regarded as one of the valued citizens of Forrest. Mr. and Mrs. Vahey are members of the Methodist Episcopal church at Forrest.

THOMAS K. BARTON.

For a quarter of a century Thomas K. Barton has dwelt in Livingston county, and during this period has become well-to-do and prominent. His life has been exemplary and worthy of emulation, and unbounded confidence in his integrity and high standard of honor is felt by the friends and neighbors who have long enjoyed his acquaintance.

A native of Juniata county, Pennsylvania, Mr. Barton is a descendant of sterling German pioneers of that state. His paternal grandfather, Ephraim Barton, was born in Germany, and at an early day in this country's history cast in his lot with our people. He participated in some of the Indian wars, and also fought in the war of 1812. David B., one of his sons, and father of our subject, was born in Juniata county about 1818, and departed this life in 1863, at his old home in the Keystone state. His wife, Sarah, was a daughter of Thomas Knox, also of Pennsylvania, and of Irish extraction.

The birth of Thomas K. Barton occurred December 15, 1844, and for twenty-two years he resided on his father's farm in Juniata county. In 1866 he determined to seek his fortune in the west, and, coming to Illinois, he found employment with farmers in La Salle county. At the end of a year he leased a farm, and soon afterwards returned to the old home, with the purpose of escorting his mother and younger brothers and sisters to the new home he had loyally provided for them, as the father had passed to his reward. Mary, the eldest sister, became the wife of George Vanata, and died in 1897. Nancy, the next in order of birth, wedded Joshua Frazer and lives in Nebraska. Samuel Barton is a citizen of Vermilion county, Illinois, and Susan, the youngest of the family, is deceased.

For five years subsequent to his return to this state Thomas K. Barton and the other members of the family dwelt together, the circle being unbroken. His home was upon a farm in La Salle county, and he continued to lease the place until 1875, when he removed to another homestead, this being located in Long Point township, Livingston county. In 1883 he bought eighty acres in section 30, Amity township—his present home, and here he found a great task before him, for the improvements were very poor, a log cabin and a few acres of broken prairie constituting them. With characteristic energy he commenced the work of making this a model farm, draining low lands

by means of tiling, building fences, a large, convenient house and good barns and other necessary buildings. He also expended some time and means in planting fruit and shade trees, and at length he bought forty acres of adjoining property, thus increasing his possessions to one hundred and twenty acres.

In all of his cares and joys, Mr. Barton has been cheered and aided by his devoted wife, formerly Miss Sarah E. Smith. They were married in La Salle county, February 14, 1872, and have been numbered among the upright, worthy inhabitants of this state since they reached maturity. Mrs. Barton was born in Juniata county, Pennsylvania, and was reared and educated there. Of the five children born to our subject and wife four are living, their little Jesse having died when young. The eldest, Frank D., is married and resides in Cornell, where he is engaged in mercantile pursuits. Laura, who received an excellent education, completing her studies in the Dixon (Illinois) College, is one of the successful teachers of this county. Leroy, an enterprising young man, is at home, assisting in the management of the farm. Frederick Carl, the youngest, also is with his parents.

The first presidential ballot of our subject was cast for Lincoln in 1864. In national affairs, he supports Democratic nominees, while in local elections he is independent of party lines. For fifteen years he served as a member of the school board, thus evincing the genuine interest which he feels in the vital matter of educating the young. He had the honor of being president of the board during the greater share of that period, and to his heartfelt concern in the subject much of the prosperity of our school system may be attributed. With his estimable wife he holds membership in the Methodist Protestant church. Fraternally he is identified with the Cornell Lodge of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a trustee of the lodge building.

GIBSON B. BROWNSON.

Gibson B. Brownson, the present supervisor of Indian Grove township, in which the city of Fairburg is located, was for many years one of the leading contractors and builders of that place, and many notable examples of his skill are to be seen in this section of the county, but he is now living a retired life. Thoroughly reliable in all things, the quality of his work is a convincing test of his own personal worth and the same admirable trait is shown in his conscientious discharge of the duties of different positions of trust and responsibility to which he has been chosen in political life.

Mr. Brownson was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, July 30, 1832, a son of Elisha Brownson, whose birth occurred in Massachusetts, May 27, 1791. The paternal grandfather, Isaac Brownson, was also a native of the old Bay state and a soldier of the Revolutionary war, being with Washington when he crossed the Delaware at Trenton. When Elisha was eight years old the family moved to Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, where he grew to manhood, and was married, October 20, 1823, to Mary Titus, who was born December 23, 1803. After his marriage he moved to Bradford county, Pennsylvania, where he cleared a heavily timbered tract of land and transformed it into a good farm. There the grandfather lived retired until his death,

which occurred when our subject was but twenty-one years of age. In 1856 the father brought his family to Illinois and took up his residence in Livingston county, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying June 22, 1874. During the war of 1812, he tried to enlist, but on account of his health was not accepted. In politics he was an old-line Whig, a stanch Abolitionist, and later a Republican. His wife died November 20, 1869.

Our subject had but a limited opportunity to acquire an education, not being able to attend school more than one year during his boyhood, but in later years he devoted considerable time to reading and study, and in this way obtained a good practical education. During his youth he served a three years' apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade in New York, only a short distance from his home, and received one hundred and fifty dollars for his three years' work, out of which he had to clothe himself. In 1854 he came west on a prospecting tour and passed through this county before the railroad was built, and not a house marked the present site of Fairbury, while Pontiac was a mere hamlet. Being homesick he did not remain here long, but spent two years traving over the west. Being a good carpenter, he could always find employment, and spent one summer working at his trade in Mississippi. In this way he saw much of the country. In December, 1856, he located in this county, which has since been his home. One year was spent in Avoca, which was then quite a thriving little village, while Fairbury was unknown, and he was one of the few to vote on the township organization. On leaving Avoca he took up his residence on a farm and in connection with its operation worked at his trade in Fairbury, assisting in the erection of one of the first houses of that place.

In September, 1861, Mr. Brownson joined the boys in blue, becoming a member of Company K, Third Illinois Cavalry, which was sent to Springfield to organize and from there to Missouri, being with Fremont when he made his raid on Springfield, that state. Our subject was with his company until they reached Helena, Arkansas, and was then sent to the hospital. On his recovery he joined the Mississippi Marine Brigade, which was located on the river, being in the cavalry department going up and down that stream with horses on boats, and whenever they discovered any scouts landed and chased them. Mr. Brownson was mustered out at Vicksburg, August 29, 1864, with the rank of sergeant.

After his return north he worked for a time at his trade in St. Louis, and then returned to Fairbury, which had continued to be his home. In partnership with his brother, he did an extensive business as a contractor and builder and gave employment to fourteen or fifteen men at one time. He erected many of the residences, business blocks and other houses of Fairbury, also built the Catholic church—the first in the place; the Presbyterian church which is still standing; and other churches throughout the county. Not a man living here has had as much to do with the construction of buildings as has practically lived retired. His own our subject, but for the past year or two he pleasant residence was erected the year of his marriage.

On the 11th of March, 1868, Mr. Brownson married Miss Susan Ormsby, of Bradford county, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Levi Ormsby, and to them have been born two children, both of whom were provided

with good educational advantages. Alice, the older, attended school in Dixon, and prior to her marriage engaged in teaching in Fairbury. She is now the wife of John D. Watkins, of Cleveland, Ohio, and they have one son, John. Nellie I. was educated at the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, and is now a successful teacher in the public schools in Fairbury. The family attend the Presbyterian church.

By his ballot Mr. Brownson has always supported the Republican party, and in 1868 served as assessor of Pleasant Ridge township. For nine years he was an active and efficient member of the school board of Fairbury, during which time the first brick school house was erected there, and was a member of the board of village trustees when the water works was put in. In November, 1895, he was appointed to fill a vacancy as supervisor, and at the next election was elected to that office. He has since been re-elected and is still filling that office in a most creditable and satisfactory manner. He has taken an important part in the work of the board, and has proved a most competent and trustworthy official, his duties having always been most faithfully discharged. Fraternally he is a member of Aaron Weider Post, G. A. R.; Tarbolton Lodge, No. 351, F. & A. M., and the Independent Order of Mutual Aid, in all of which he has held office.

WILLIAM ROBERT MORRIS.

William Robert Morris, a progressive member of the agricultural class of Livingston county, is one of the most successful young farmers of Amity township. His entire life has been spent in this immediate locality, and here, where he is so well known, he bears a reputation for uprightness and justice and a conscientious regard for the rights of others and his duty as a citizen and head of a household.

William R. Morris, more familiar known as Robert Morris, comes from an old and honored Virginia family, and his grandfather, Henry Morris, possessed that spirit which has filled the hearts of all of the sturdy brave pioneers who laid the foundations of future civilization and prosperity. Henry Morris first removed from the Old Dominion to the wilderness of Ohio, subsequently located in Indiana and as early as 1837, when this country was new and sparsely settled, came to Livingston county. Choosing a tract of land in Amity township, he spent the remainder of his life here, his death occurring in 1841. His homestead, which he had partially cleared and prepared for cultivation, is the identical one now in the possession of our subject.

C. F. Morris, father of William Robert Morris, was born in Tippecanoe county, Indiana, December 12, 1828, and from his tenth year until his death, February 10, 1900, he dwelt in Amity township—one of her most esteemed citizens. His death is felt to be a public loss in this community, where so long and faithfully he used his influence for its permanent welfare. In early manhood he wedded Susanna, daughter of Joseph Springer, who was an early settler in this locality, also. The young couple commenced keeping house in this township, and in the course of time came to live on the old Morris homestead, in section 17, having bought the interests of the other heirs. Under his management the place was wonderfully improved, and a well-built house and

[illegible] added much to the value and desirability of the farm. Mr. Morris was engaged in the actual work of the farm until about fifteen years ago, and in 1892 he removed to Cornell, where he had purchased a pleasant residence. His long and useful life closed in peacefulness, and, surrounded by his loving relatives and numerous sincere friends he breathed his last and passed to his [illegible] and away in the old Morris cemetery, on the homestead, with which the name has been associated for more than three-score years. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died in 1874, and he afterward married again. Joseph C., his eldest son is a resident of Kansas City, and Geneva, the only daughter, is the wife of William Gregory, a farmer of this township.

The birth of William Robert Morris occurred on the old homestead, May 20, 1868, and here his boyhood days were passed in the usual quiet pursuits of country lads. After completing the curriculum of the common schools, he further qualified himself for life's duties by attending college at Dixon, Illinois, where he was a student for two years. He then returned home and assiduously devoted himself to the cultivation of the farm, deciding to make agriculture his chief business in the future. Since 1890 he has had entire charge of the old farm, and now manages about four hundred acres of well cultivated and highly desirable land. He is practical and in sympathy with the progressive spirit of the age, and it is safe to predict for him wealth and prominence, though these things are not his chief aspirations.

On the 27th of May, 1887, Mr. Morris married Ella G. Blake, daughter of Daniel Blake, of Cornell, her native place. Seven [illegible] bless the union of this sterling couple, namely: Fred, Lena, Robert B., Gertrude, Chester Warren, Hazel B. and Emily Geneva.

In his political faith Mr. Morris is a Democrat. For himself he has never aspired to public office, as he finds his time fully occupied in attending to his manifold business affairs. Yielding to duty and the desires of his neighbors, he has officiated as district clerk and on the board of education, giving his influence to all measures calculated to benefit the community permanently in his opinion.

HENRY J. SANTELMAN.

Henry J. Santelman, one of the leading agriculturists of Newton township, whose home is on section 14, has been a resident of Livingston county since 1884. He is a native of Illinois, born in La Salle county, December 21, 1862, and is a son of Henry and Sophia (Freeman) Santelman, natives of Germany, who came to this country in early life and were married in La Salle county. By trade the father was a glazier, but here he devoted his attention to farming, and although he had no capital with which to begin life, he worked hard and at the time of his death, which occurred March 12, 1898, he owned two hundred and forty acres of valuable land, acquired through his own well-directed efforts. He was seventy-three years of age at the time of his death. In politics he was always a Republican, and both he and his wife were members of the German Evangelical church. She is still living at the age of sixty years, and makes her home in Sunbury township, Livingston county. In their family were nine chil-

dren, namely: Charles, who owns and operates a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Sunbury township; Amelia, wife of William Russow, who has a farm of two hundred and eighty acres in Newtown township; Henry J., our subject; Mary, wife of Christian Cates, of La Salle county; Frederick, a resident of Sunbury township; William, who lives on the home place in La Salle county; Edward, who works for his brother Charles; Albert, who is with his mother; and Joseph, who is with his brother Charles.

The subject of this review received his education in the common schools of La Salle county, and remained at home until attaining his majority. On January 1, 1885, he married Miss Sophia Beckman, who was born in Germany, December 3, 1863, and when seventeen years of age came to America with her mother and the other children of the family, the father having died previously. She has one brother, John, who owns and operates a farm in Rock county, Minnesota, and a sister, Mary, wife of Charles Santelman. The mother is still living with her children at the age of seventy-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Santelman have six children: Hilda, born September 27, 1885; Ella, September 17, 1889; Walter, December 7, 1891; Laura, September 7, 1894; Fred, January 23, 1897; and Roy, February 12, 1900.

On starting out in life for himself Mr. Santelman's father gave him five hundred dollars, a team and some farming implements. For nine years he successfully engaged in farming in Sunbury township, and on selling his property there bought his present farm of one hundred and ninety acres in Newtown township, for which he paid fifty-eight dollars per acre. This he has tiled and further improved, and as a thorough and practical farmer he is meeting with well-deserved success. He possesses many of the admirable characteristics of his German ancestors, being industrious, energetic and persevering, and is highly respected by all who know him. As a Republican he takes quite an active interest in political affairs, but has never cared for office, though he is serving as school director in his district. Religiously he is a member of the Evangelical church, as is also his wife.

HAMMOND A. PEARSON.

Hammond A. Pearson, a prominent farmer of Nebraska township, and a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Livingston county, was born here, October 5, 1857, a son of Abel and Mary A. (Bloodworth) Pearson, both natives of England, the former born at Tydd, St. Mary's, Lincolnshire, August 24, 1826, the latter at Tidd, St. Giles, January 15, 1823. It was in 1849 that the father crossed the broad Atlantic, and after spending one season in Rochester, New York, came to Illinois, settling at Walnut Grove, now Eureka, Woodford county. In May, 1856, he located on the west half of the northeast quarter of section 21, Nebraska township, Livingston county, for which he paid seventy-five cents per acre, and the grant for which he received from President Buchanan, April 15, 1857. On the 12th of February, 1870, he bought the east half of the northwest quarter from Joseph H. Stitt, at thirty-five dollars per acre, and the west half of the northwest quarter from Thomas Ward, January 24, 1876. There he successfully engaged in farming until 1889, when he moved

to Flanagan and laid aside all business cares, living retired until his death, which occurred December 31, 1893.

On the 26th of October, 1851, Abel Pearson married Mary A. Bloodworth, the ceremony being performed by William Martin, justice of the peace, at Metamora, Illinois. She came to this country in that year, and died April 9, 1896. In their family were the following children: Susan A., born September 18, 1852, was married December 24, 1872, to Thomas Bennett, of Nebraska township, Livingston county; Abraham W., born January 1, 1854, died the following October; Mahala, born March 4, 1855, was married February 16, 1875, to F. H. Martin, a native of Livingston county, but now of Goldfield, Iowa; Matilda J., born May 3, 1856, was married September 16, 1885, to George Woodworth, of Nebraska township; Hammond A., our subject, is next in order of birth; Clark, born November 7, 1859, died September 20, 1880; and Abel, born May 3, 1861, died October 6, 1862.

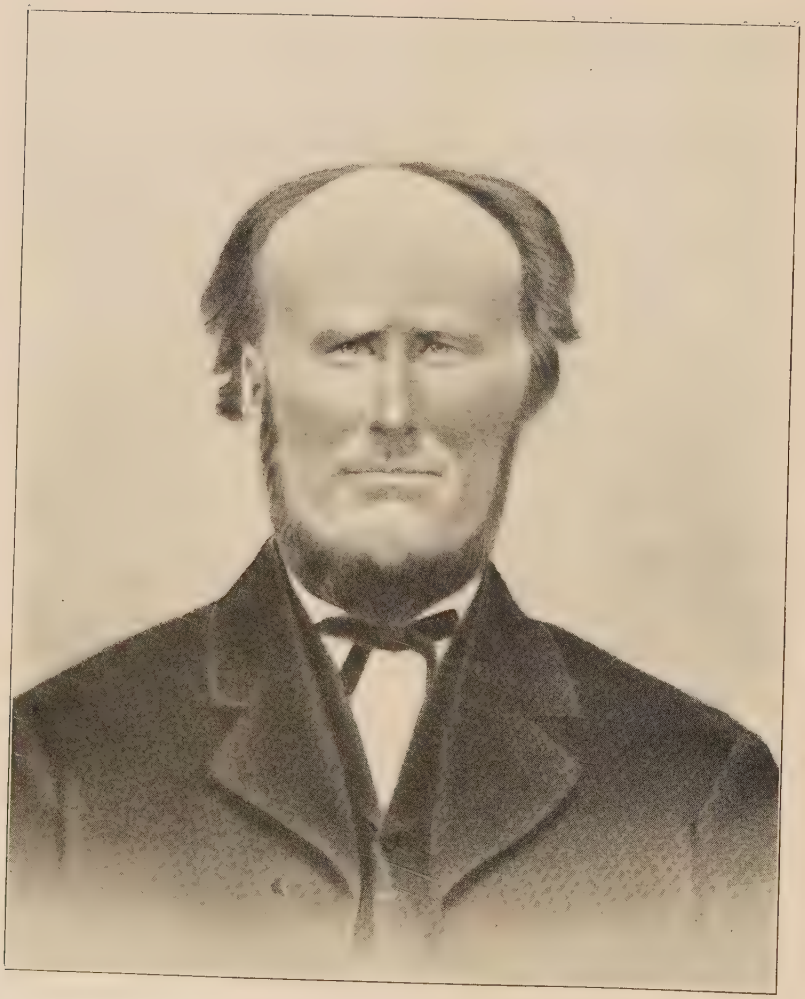
During his boyhood and youth Hammond A. Pearson attended the district schools, and on the home farm acquired an excellent knowledge of all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. Since starting out in life for himself he has devoted his time and energies to farming, and has met with good success in his chosen occupation. He was married, January 18, 1883, to Miss Fannie Wadsworth, a daughter of William Wadsworth, of El Paso, Woodford county, who was residing in McLean county at the time of their marriage. They have two children: Ernest B., born May 6, 1886; and Myrta Maud Lucile, born August 10, 1892.

Mr. Pearsn is president of the Nebraska Mutual Insurance Company, and has efficiently served as school director in his district for ten years. He and his family are all members of the Christian church, and are held in high regard by all who know them.

ELIJAH DEFENBAUGH.

Elijah Defenbaugh, deceased, was for many years a well-known and honored citizens of Reading township, Livingston county, Illinois. He was born in Ross county, Ohio, March 9, 1828, a son of Daniel and Nancy (Armstrong) Defenbaugh, natives of Berks county, Pennsylvania, the latter being of Scotch-Irish descent. The Defenbaugh family is of Holland extraction, and was founded in the United States at a very early day. Our subject's grandfather, George Defenbaugh, moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio, when the latter state was almost an unbroken wilderness, and in the midst of the forest he made for himself a home. There the father, Daniel Defenbaugh, spent his entire life as a millwright. He died and was buried in Ross county. In his family were ten children, namely: James, George, Elijah, Thomas and Caroline, all now deceased; Isaac, Allen, Martin, Margaret, and Angeline, now living.

In the county of his nativity, Elijah Defenbaugh grew to manhood, receiving a common-school education, and in early life working as a farm laborer for eight or ten dollars per month. On October 5, 1851, he married his cousin, Miss Catherine Defenbaugh, a daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Goodman) Defenbaugh, also natives of Pennsylvania. The father was the oldest son of George Defenbaugh previously referred to. He was killed by a fall which broke his



ELIJAH DEFENBAUGH.

MRS. CATHERINE DEFENBAUGH.

back. By trade he was a tanner. Neither he nor his wife ever came west to live. Their children were John, Daniel, Peter, Elizabeth, Henry, Catherine, Adam, Duma, Esther, Joseph, Amos and Maria, six of whom are still living. Of the ten children born to our subject and his wife the oldest died in infancy; Ammon and Alfred are both at home with their mother; Harvey is running an elevator in Reading, Illinois; Lucretia is the wife of Gideon Slaughterback, of Indiana; Milton is a resident of Reading township, Livingston county, Illinois; Ephraim died at the age of eighteen years; Dora died at the age of three years; George died at the age of one month; and Lona did at the age of four years.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Defenbaugh came to Livingston county, Illinois, and entered eighty acres of land in Reading township, for which he paid one dollar and a quarter per acre. At that time it was all wild prairie land, deer and wolves were still to be seen in this region, and the early settlers would get up parties to go out and kill the latter to keep them from destroying their stock. From time to time Mr. Defenbaugh added to his landed possessions until he had over twelve hundred acres of land, and throughout his active business life was successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. On coming to this state he had only three hundred dollars in money, a team and wagon; but being industrious, energetic and progressive, as well as a man of good business and executive ability, he prospered in his undertakings and acquired a handsome competence. He and his wife experienced many of the hardships and privations incident to frontier life. It took them four weeks to drive across the country to their new home in Illinois, there being no railroads at that time, and from their doorway they could look for miles over what seemed to be boundless prairie with no habitations. Mr. Defenbaugh helped to haul ties for the first railroad built through his section, and his wife spun wool and made clothes for her family. He died December 19, 1886, and was laid to rest in Defenbaugh cemetery, Reading township. In his political views he was a Democrat, but never cared for official honors, though he served as school director in his district. His aid was never withheld from any enterprise which he believed calculated to prove of public benefit, and in his death the community realized that it had lost one of its most valuable and useful citizens.

SIMON JAMISON.

Simon Jamison has been a resident of Livingston county since the fall of 1868, and was for many years actively engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is now living a retired life in the village of Cornell. He was born in Ross county, Ohio, May 31, 1837, a son of William and Sarah C. (Adams) Jamison, the former a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, the latter of Ross county, Ohio. His paternal grandfather was William Jamison, Sr., who was of Irish parentage and died in Ohio in 1821. The father was born about 1813, and was only six years old when the family removed to the Buckeye state, his early life being spent in Ross county, where he and his six brothers cleared and improved a farm. Later he lived in Fayette county, Ohio, and spent his last days upon a farm in Mercer county, that state, where he died in 1882. His wife

survived him a number of years, dying in December, 1894.

Simon Jamison grew to manhood upon a farm in Fayette county, Ohio, and attended the public schools to some extent, but at the age of fourteen commenced earning his own livelihood by working by the month as a farm hand, and later was employed as engineer in a grist-mill at Jasper for six years. In Fayette county he married, January 6, 1859, to Miss Mary E. Cline, a native of that county and a daughter of George Cline, who was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, in 1809, but was reared in Clinton county, Ohio. In Fayette county, that state, Mr. Cline married Catherine Figins, who was born in that county March 7, 1813, and belonged to one of the early families of Ohio. He followed farming in Fayette county until his death, which parted this life January 29, 1894, both being laid to rest in Bush cemetery, where a substantial monument has been erected to their memory. Mrs. Jamison's paternal grandfather, Philip Cline, was also a native of Virginia. Our subject and his wife are the parents of three children, namely: Edward A., a business man of Pontiac and Cornell, married and has one son, Clarence, who lives with his grandparents; Cary A., a farmer of Amity township, is married and has three children, Stella, Harold and Ross; and Catherine is the wife of Professor Clarence E. De Butts, superintendent of the Fairbury schools, and they have two children, Cary and Dean.

Mr. Jamison engaged in farming on rented land in Fayette county, Ohio, until 1868, and then came to Livingston county, Illinois, locating on a rented farm in Amity township, which he purchased afterward, after living there for four years. It consists of one hundred and sixty acres of land, and to its further improvement and cultivation he devoted his time and attention for many years. He erected a good residence, barn, granary, cribs and sheds, set out an orchard, and otherwise improved the place until it is now a valuable farm. In 1888 he rented it and moved to Cornell, where he has built a large, neat residence, one of the nicest in the village. He was in the store of his son for about six years after coming to this place, but is now practically living retired, though he oversees the management of his place. His success in life is due entirely to his own well-directed efforts, for he came to this state empty-handed and has made what he has by industry, perseverance and good management.

Mr. Jamison cast his first presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas, the Little Giant, and has since been an ardent Democrat, and has been a delegate to the county conventions of his part. He served fifteen years as highway commissioner and nine as township trustee with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. His estimable wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Cornell, and both are held in high regard by all who know them.

IRA M. KNIGHT.

Ira M. Knight, a well-known farmer of section 13, Germanville township, Livingston county, is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred in Will county, August 23, 1861. His father, Marshall B. Knight, was born in Susquehanna county, Pennsylvania, April 5, 1831, and was a son of Amasa and Lovina Knight, natives of Ver-

mont, who in 1845 brought their family to Illinois, locating first near Ottawa, where they engaged in farming. Amasa Knight died in 1850, when well advanced in life, and his wife, who survived him some years, died of smallpox in Bureau county, this state. Marshall B. Knight grew to manhood upon his father's farm, and after the latter's death operated the place for some years. In 1851 he married Miss Althere C. Tillotson and they made their home in La Salle county for a time. Subsequently he was thus engaged in farming in Will county for about ten years, and then moved to the northern part of Ford county, where he followed the same occupation five years. Selling his farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in 1874, he came to Livingston county, and purchased three hundred and twenty acres on section 13, Germanville township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until his death, which occurred December 4, 1895. He was a public-spirited and enterprising man, who advocated all measures tending to the advancement and improvement of the locality, and was a stanch supporter of the Republican party. He served as school director two of three terms, but never cared for political preferment. His widow, who still survives him, continues to reside on the old homestead on section 13, Germanville township. To them were born nine children, namely: Mary, wife of Fred D. Pettis, of Nebraska; Almeda, wife of Charles Rudd, a carpenter of Joliet, Illinois; George, twin brother of Almeda, who died at the age of one year and a half; Warren, who resides on the home place; Ira M., our subject; Elmer, who married Ella Nagle and lives on section 13, Germanville township; Ellen, twin sister of Elmer and wife of William Marsh, a well driller of Buckingham, Illinois; Alice, who first married M. J. Davis, and second Hildred Campbell, veterinary surgeon and postmaster of Roberts, Illinois; Eva, wife of Thadeus Hedger of the same place.

Ira M. Knight was educated in the public schools of Ford and Livingston counties, and remained under the parental roof until twenty-eight years of age, when he located upon his present farm of eighty acres on section 13, Germanville township, given him by his father. He has since made many improvements upon the place, and it is now one of the most highly cultivated tracts of land in that locality. The Knight family have been prominently identified with the development of the county, and have been instrumental in transforming the wild prairie into one of the richest agricultural districts of the state.

On the 13th of November, 1889, in Brenton township, Ford county, Mr. Knight was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Holmes, one of a family of nine children, all living, whose parents are Christian and Maria (Hanson) Holmes, prominent agriculturists of that county. Our subject and his wife have two children: Althere C. born on the home place in Livingston county April 4, 1890, and Gladys M., born January 12, 1899.

Christian Holmes was born in Denmark February 19, 1842. He was educated in his native land and at the age of twenty-five years emigrated to America. He was a carpenter by trade, having served his apprenticeship in the land of his birth. When he came to this country he first located in Nashville, Washington county, Illinois, where he worked at his trade a few years, when he removed to Normal, Illinois, where he also worked at his trade until he was ob-

liged to discontinue it on account of failing health, in 1875. At this time he concluded to engage in the more healthful pursuit of tilling the soil. He accordingly purchased eighty acres of land in Brenton township, Ford county, Illinois, where he immediately moved with his family and still resides on this farm of his first purchase. He also has purchased one hundred and ninety-two acres more since that time, which is under a fine state of cultivation and which ranks Mr. Holmes among the extensive land owners of that prosperous community. He was married, at Chicago, Illinois, in April, 1869, to Miss Maria Hansen, who was also a native of Denmark. She came to this country in 1869 and they were married upon her arrival here. They reared a family of nine children, seven of whom are living, viz.: Hannah C.; Mrs. I. M. Knight; Louis, who resides near Piper City, Illinois; George, same place; Minnie, at home; John, at home; Freddie, at home; Willie, at home. Mr. Holmes has never aspired to political office, but has served his township on several occasions as school director. He is a stanch Republican, and the family are adherents to the Presbyterian faith.

HENRY M. CORNELL.

Henry M. Cornell, one of the honored pioneers of Livingston county and a veteran of the Civil war, is now living a retired life in the village of Cornell, quietly enjoying the income which he accumulated in former years. He has made his home in this county since the spring of 1840 and can relate many interesting incidents of the days when this region was all wild and unimproved. He has seen towns and villages spring up and all the comforts of civilized life introduced, and in the work of advancement and progress he has ever borne an important part.

Mr. Cornell was born in Newport, Rhode Island, September 4, 1836, and belongs to a family of English origin founded in this country by three brothers, one of whom settled in Canada, the second in New York and the third in Rhode Island. All were members of the Society of Friends, to which faith the ancestors of our subject have adhered for many generations. His grandfather, Walter Cornell, was a life-long resident of Rhode Island. The father, Walter Cornell, Jr., was born in Newport, that state, April 3, 1811, and there married Sarah C. Eldred, a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of John Eldred, who belonged to an old New England family. The original Eldred homestead is still in possession of the family and adjoins the birthplace of Commodore Perry. In early life the father of our subject was interested in the manufacture of cotton goods and was superintendent of factories. He came west in 1838 and first located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but in the fall of the same year came to Illinois to take charge of a stationary engine used in digging the canal. In 1837 he entered two hundred acres of government land in Amity township, Livingston, which he commenced to improve, and in 1840 returned to Rhode Island and brought his family to the home he had prepared for them, the journey being made by way of the great lakes. In connection with farming he engaged in raising stock, fattening cattle and hogs, which he drove to the Chicago markets. He was one of the best educated and well informed men of the county, as

well as one of its most prominent and influential citizens, and was honored with important official positions, serving as supervisor, superintendent of schools and county treasurer three years. He died in 1895, highly respected by all who know him. Of his family two sons are still living: Henry M., our subject, and Walter B., a resident of Great Bend, Kansas.

Henry M. Cornell was only four years old when the family settled in Livingston county, where he grew to manhood upon a farm. His educational advantages were rather limited, as the schools of this region at that day were much inferior to those of the present time. At the age of twenty he started out in life for himself as a farmer, but later rented his farm and traveled some. In 1861, at the opening of the Civil war, he enlisted in Company H, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, and his first battle was that of Shiloh, followed by the siege of Corinth. He was in five important battles and a number of skirmishes, being under fire twenty-eight times. He was taken prisoner by Forest at Lexington, Tennessee, but was soon paroled, when he came north and was put in charge of paroled men until exchanged. He was put on detached duty as provost marshal at Grand Junction, Mississippi, for a time, and was promoted from orderly sergeant to first lieutenant. He lost no time except when granted a short furlough, but was at length forced to resign and was mustered out on account of disability, being taken home on a bed. When he had sufficiently recovered he resumed farming, but sold his farm a few years later and moved to the southern part of the state. In 1871, however, he returned to Livingston county, and purchased his old place in Amity township, which he has since greatly improved. He laid out that part of the village of Cornell north of Main street and which was named for the family, and has since devoted considerable attention to the real estate business, but is now living retired.

On the 1st of January, 1861, in Livingston county, Mr. Cornell married Miss Mary S. Coe, a daughter of William Coe. She was born in Covington, Indiana, but was principally reared in Illinois, and died in this county January 3, 1890, leaving nine children, two sons and seven daughters, namely: Dick H., who has successfully engaged in teaching school and served as a soldier of the Spanish-American war, being with the army in Porto Rico; Walter, who is now among the Indians in northwestern Minnesota; S. Lillian, who is a graduate of Eureka College, and was formerly engaged in teaching school, but is now a resident of Great Bend, Kansas; Lora L., who taught school five years, and is now the wife of C. W. Hadley, of Cuba, Missouri; Mattie E., who also taught five years, and is now the wife of Stephen Dunbar, of Cornell; Bertha E., who followed the same profession five years, and is now the wife of Irwin Finley, who was deputy sheriff of Livingston county four years and is now a resident of Estherville, Iowa; Joe D., a teacher residing at home; Lulu, also a teacher; and Ada, at home.

Politically Mr. Cornell has been a lifelong Republican, and has been a delegate to a number of county conventions, but has never sought office, though he served one term as supervisor. Fraternally he is a member of Cornell Post, G. A. R., and is a Royal Arch Mason, who served three years as master of the blue lodge at Cornell. As a liberal-minded and progressive

citizen he has aided materially in the development of his adopted county, has given his support to all enterprises calculated to prove of public benefit, and is justly entitled to prominent mention among her most honored and useful citizens.

CHRISTOPHER C. LEONARD.

Christopher C. Leonard, an honored veteran of the Civil war, and a successful agriculturist of Newtown township, has been identified with the interests of Livingston county for almost half a century, having located here in 1852. He was born in Bradford county, Pennsylvania, April 26, 1836, and is a son of Edmnud D. and Elizabeth H. (Remington) Leonard, natives of Massachusetts and New York, respectively. In early life the father followed different occupations, but after coming to Illinois, in 1852, he devoted his attention to farming exclusively. He took up one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Newton township, Livingston county, which was wild prairie land, entirely unimproved, and he and our subject at once began to break it and continued to work together for some time. The family endured many hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, and at first had to haul all their produce to Ottawa, which was the nearest market place. The two oldest sons worked out at twelve dollars per month and paid for the land, while the father and our subject devoted their energies towards its improvement. The father died in 1860, but the mother, who was born January 24, 1808, is still living. To them were born nine children, of whom one died in infancy; Franklin, the oldest son, died in the service of his country during the civil war, being a member of Company G, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry; Mrs. Harriet Jacobs died in Ford county, Illinois; and Mrs. Mary Ide in Aconda, Livingston county. Those living are Myra, wife of Andrew Stewart, of Kempton, Ford county; Roscoe, who owns a part of the old home farm in Newton township; Christopher C., our subject; Sarah, wife of Andrew Hoobler, of Streator; and Isabelle, wife of John L. Cusick, of Newton township.

Christopher C. Leonard began his education in the schools of his native state, and after coming to Illinois, at the age of ten years, attended school in Livingston county for a time. He remained under the parental roof until he was married, in 1858, to Miss Mary Mason, who was born in Michigan, in August, 1838, a daughter of Enoch and Elizabeth Mason. Her family came to Livingston county in 1852 and settled on the farm in Newton township now occupied by our subject, where her parents died. She has one brother, George, a farmer in Iowa.

For a year and a half after his marriage Mr. Leonard engaged in farming in Amity township, Livingston county, and then returned to Newton township. After the civil war broke out he laid aside all personal interests, and enlisted, in August, 1862, in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served until the close of the war, being all through the Atlanta campaign and taking part in many battles. He entered the service as a private, and when discharged, June 17, 1865, held the rank of corporal. After his return home Mr. Leonard operated his mother's farm until the death

of his wife's parents, when he purchased the interest of the heirs in the farm which he now occupies. It consists of one hundred and forty-two acres of rich and arable land on section 34, Newtown township, upon which he has made all of the improvements, and he also owns forty acres in Amity township. In 1898 he purchased a general store in Manville, which he now operates in partnership with his son. This property has all been acquired through his own well-directed and energetic efforts, for he started out in life for himself with no capital save a pair of willing hands and a determination to succeed.

Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, one died in infancy. The others are as follows: (1) Edwin, a farmer of Newton township, married Effie Hoenshell, and they have three children, Lloyd, David C. and Lela. (2) Olivia is with her parents. (3) Emily is the wife of John Weidman, a farmer of McHenry county, Illinois, and they have six children, Ervie, Arthur, Lawrence, Bertha, Mary and Roy. (4) Clora is the wife of Alvin Gilman, of Newtown township, and they have three children, Mary, Alma and Lula B. (5) Ira, a resident of Amity township, married Lizzie Gilman, and they have two children, Alma and Ralph. (6) Andrew, also of Amity township, married Ada Walker, and they have one daughter, Florence. (7) Frank is at home with his parents. (8) Fred married Ine I. Davis, and is now a partner of his father's store in Manville.

Since casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont, Mr. Leonard has been a stanch supporter of the Republican party, and has taken quite an active and prominent part in local politics, holding some offices for several years. He has served as road commissioner six years, school director, ten years; collector, three years, and assessor, two years, being elected to the last named office for 1901. In 1890 he was appointed census enumerator, and has been a delegate to the county conventions of his party. He is an honored member of the Grand Army Post, No. 769, at Cornell, in which he has held all the offices, and is an active member of the Mehtodist Episcopal church, to which his estimable wife also belongs. His useful and well-spent life has gained for him not only a comfortable competence, but also the respect and confidence of all with whom he has come in contact either in business or social life.

G. E. ROHRER.

G. E. Rohrer, a popular and successful photographer of Flanagan, was born in Rutland, La Salle county, Illinois, September 20, 1866, and is a son of Emanuel and Harriet (Koontz) Rohrer, natives of Maryland, who came to this state in 1844, and first located in Chicago, which at that time was a mere village. Six years later they moved to Champaign, where the father died November 22, 1869. Since then the family have made their home in Rutland. The children are as follows: John, a harness-maker of Rutland; Henrietta, wife of G. B. Horner, of Lincoln, Illinois; Aaron, a machinist of Rutland; William, a grocer of that place; Elizabeth, wife of L. W. Kelly, of Rutland; Silas, foreman of the Kansas City Transfer Company; Charles, a barber of Rutland; and G. E. our subject.

In his native town G. E. Rohrer grew to manhood and is indebted to its public schools for his educational advantages. At the age of seventeen he commenced working at the barber's trade there, and on coming to Flanagan in 1885, opened a barber shop, which he successfully conducted until March, 1890, when he sold out. In connection with the barber business he had been engaged in photography for ten years, and since disposing of the former he has devoted his entire time and attention to the latter. He is well known for the excellency of his work and receives a very extensive patronage.

On the 28th of May, 1880, Mr. Rohrer married Miss Carrie Willoughby, of Rutland, who presides with gracious dignity over their home. As a public-spirited and progressive citizen, he takes considerable interest in the welfare and progress of his town, and has served several years as a member of the board of trustees of Flanagan. Politically he is identified with the Republican party.

WILLIAM H. ROTH.

William H. Roth, owner and proprietor of the leading machine and repair shop of Pontiac, was born in Lacon, Illinois, September 3, 1860. His father, Henry Roth, was born in 1822, near Cologne, Germany, where he was reared and educated, and for some time he was a soldier in the German army taking an active part in the war of 1848. In 1852, on the expiration of his term of enlistment, he came to the United States and located in La Salle county, Illinois, where he worked on a farm, having become thoroughly familiar with agricultural pursuits in his native land. While in La Salle he was married to Elizabeth Weber, who was also born in Cologne, Germany, in 1831. After his marriage he settled near Lacon, where he operated a rented farm two years, and then, having been able to save some money, he purchased eighty acres of raw prairie land, which he at once commenced to improve and cultivate. He has since added to his farm and now has a quarter-section of land in Bennington township, Marshall county, all tiled and under a high state of cultivation, it being one of the best kept farms in the township. There the father still resides and continues to engage in active farming. He came to this country with no capital and the first year worked for twelve dollars per month, but his ability and fixed purpose have brought him independence, and he is now one of the successful and highly respected men of his locality. He and his wife are members of the Catholic church at Minonk, were among the first to unite with the same, have contributed liberally to its support and helped to build the church edifice. The father also helped build the first school house in his district. In his family are seven children who are still living.

During his boyhood William H. Roth received a good practical education in the common schools, and being an inveterate reader he has stored up a large fund of useful information and has acquired a fine library. He assisted his father in the operation of the farm until twenty-four years of age, and after working for others one year, he traveled through the west on a sort of inspection tour. On his return to Marshall county, Illinois, he worked on a farm in Bennington township four years, and then

WILLIAM H. ROTH.

came to Union township, Livingston county, where he was similarly employed.

On Thanksgiving day, November 27, 1881, Mr. Roth married Miss Catherine Horbach, a daughter of John Horbach, who who was born near Cologne Germany, and they have became the parents of four children, namely: Margaret, William, Mary and Bertha.

For four years after his marriage, Mr. Roth engaged in farming near Emington, and then came to Pontiac, where he was employed as engineer at the tile factory two years, having previously become familiar with the duties of that position. Liking the work he decided to follow the machinist's trade and opened a shop of his own, buying his present property at No. 417 West Howard street. He now has the principle machine shop in Pontiac and has met with marked success in this venture, being eminently fitted for that line of work. Besides his business property Mr. Roth now owns a good house and two lots in the west part of the town. His success in life is due entirely to his own well-directed efforts and good business ability. He and his family are members of St. Mary's Catholic church, and he also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America and the Toilers Fraternity.

THOMAS G. RYERSON.

Thomas G. Ryerson has witnessed almost the entire development of Livingston county, and has contributed his full share to this grand work. By concentrated effort and indefatigable energy he has wrought out success, and now, in his declining years, is reaping the just rewards of his long years of toil. Commencing life, a stranger in a strange land, without a dollar, and, indeed, in debt for the cost of his voyage across the Atlantic, he certainly has displayed a fortitude and application to business amounting to heroism.

The career of Mr. Ryerson possesses much that is worthy of emulation by his posterity, and his many friends will take pleasure in tracing this record. Born in Stavanger, Norway, September 8, 1834, he grew to manhood there, and obtained a fair education in his mother tongue. In company with an older brother, Ole Ryerson, he emigrated to America in 1855, and, at the end of a voyage that consumed six weeks and six days, they arrived at their destination—Quebec. Coming to Chicago by way of the great lakes, our subject then proceeded to Ottawa, where he witnessed the celebrations attendant on the fourth of July. He was stricken with the typhoid fever, and during that summer was in very poor health in consequence. As soon as he was able to work the brave youth obtained a position on a farm, and for several years thereafter worked for others.

On the 14th of August, 1862, Mr. Ryerson enlisted in the defense of his adopted country, becoming a member of Company F, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry, which was placed in the Army of the Tennessee. At the first severe engagement in which our subject was engaged he was wounded by a shell in the right hip, and being so disabled, was sent to the hospital at Gallatin, Tennessee. Subsequently he was transferred to the hospital in Nashville, and thence to one in Chicago. When he was convalescent he was honorably discharged from the army and returned to La Salle county in April, 1863.

When he had recovered a measure of his usual health Mr. Ryerson resumed agricultural labors, and in 1875 came to Livingston county. Here he bought eighty acres in Amity township, only thirty acres of which property had been broken and placed under the plow. A small cabin served as a home for a period, but in time this was supplanted by a large, pleasant house, which was built under the owner's supervision. [illegible] plants and plumed an orchard and fine shade trees. As he could afford it, he invested his surplus funds in more land, and to-day is the owner of four hundred and seventy acres. Most of this is productive and valuable land, yielding a generous return for the labor expended upon it.

The marriage of Mr. Ryerson and Lizzie Larson, a native of Norway, took place in La Salle county in 1862. The wife was a child of perhaps twelve years when she came to the United States, and, with her husband, she has been a faithful member of the Lutheran church since youth. To her helpfulness and brave spirit during the years of their struggle for a home and competence Mr. Ryerson attributes much of his success in life. Two of their children died in infancy, but nine survive. Louis is married and is a prosperous farmer in this district. Anna Belle is the wife of Rasmus Aarvig, of Pontiac. Theodore is the agent and telegraph operator for the Illinois Central Railroad Company at Odell, Illinois. The younger children who are at home are named as follows: Oliver, Adolph, Mildred, David, Clara and Mabel.

Mr. Ryerson is especially desirous of giving his children good educations, knowing that thereby they will be fitted for the battle of life. He is deeply interested in the maintenance of schools of a high standard, and for three terms has officiated as a member of the school board, doing all within his power to increase the efficiency of our educational system. In political creed he is a true-blue Republican, and since casting his first presidential ballot for Lincoln, in 1864, he has ardently supported the party of his choice.

ADAM F. MORRISON.

Livingston county attributes its wonderful growth and flourishing state to the fine, [illegible] agriculturists, and in Amity township the subject of this article is one of the foremost. He is a native of Illinois, his birth having taken place in La Salle county, May 27, 1855.

His father, Adam Morrison, one of the [illegible], was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1827, and when he was in his eighteenth year he sailed for America, his future home. He accompanied his father, James Morrison, who likewise was a native of the land of the thistle and heather, and their first location in this country was at Fall River, Massachusetts. In 1844 they removed to the [illegible] this prairie state. Adam Morrison, who for the past four years has been living retired at his home in Streator, was actively engaged in farming in La Salle county for many years. He made a success of the business and accumulated considerable ex- [illegible] comprised in two or three farms situated near Streator. His wife, Fanny, a daughter of William Dickenson, was born in Man-

chester, England, and with the parental family came to the new world fifty-nine years ago, and, like the Morrisons, first settled in the pretty town of Fall River, Massachusetts.

Adam F. Morrison, whose entire life has been spent in Illinois, became familiar with the varied duties of a farmer when he was a mere child, and it was not until he had fully arrived at mature years that he left home and started upon his independent career. The most important step in his life, perhaps, was his marriage, July 23, 1880, to Miss Mary Welch, whose birth had occurred in Marshall county, Illinois. The young couple commenced keeping house upon one of the farms belonging to the senior Morrison, but by industry and economy they managed to make a good start toward financial success within three or four years.

In 1884 Mr. Morrison purchased a homestead of some eighty acres, situated in Livingston county. From time to time, as his means afforded, he bought additional land, until his farm comprises two hundred and five acres. By judicious expenditure of money he has greatly increased the value of his land, and by tiling, fencing and rotation of crops, he has proved his enterprise and wisdom. For a period the family used an old house and barn, but now all is different, and a commodious new house and barns and granaries bespeak the thrift of the proprietor. An orchard, in which a great variety of fruits may be found, and an abundance of well-trimmed shade trees about the farm, add much to the beauty and desirability of the place.

In all of his efforts to gain a livelihood and pleasant home, Mr. Morrison has found a true helpmeet in his wife. She is a daughter of Noah Welch, a native of Kentucky, and from his fourteenth year a resident of Pennsylvania, Missouri and Illinois, his arrival in this state occurring in the early part of the Civil war. His wife, Jane, was a daughter of Jared Ely, and both were Pennsylvanians by birth. They were married near St. Joseph, Missouri, where the Welch family were then living. The four children born to our subject and wife are William M., Lee N., Frank and Helen, all of whom are promising students in the local school. Mr. Morrison is a Democrat, but he never has been an aspirant to public honors. He commands the respect of this community, and his friends are legion throughout the northern part of this county, and wherever he is known. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal church.

DENNIS GLINNEN.

Dennis Glinnen, one of the old settlers' and much respected citizens of Avoca township and a resident of Livingston county for over half a century, was born in county Westmeath, Ireland, May 9, 1833, a son of James and Mary (Dunn) Glinnen, who emigrated to America in 1838 to make a home for themselves and children. In Ireland the father worked as a laborer and farmer, and on first coming to this country found employment in an iron foundry in Sussex county, Maryland, where he remained a number of years. In November, 1844, he came to Illinois, and six years later purchased a claim and also some government land in Livingston county, owning at the time of his death, in 1858, two hundred and forty acres of land in Avoca township.

He was a self-made man, who started out in life as a poor laborer, and by hard work and good management, as well as honest dealings, not only won a comfortable competence, but also commanded the respect of all with whom he came in contact. Of his seven children three died young, and four are still living, namely: Dennis, the subject of this sketch; Mary, wife of John Monahan, who lives north of Chatsworth, in Charlotte township; Christopher, a resident of Avoca township; and Matthew, who owns and occupies the old home farm.

During his boyhood Dennis Glinnen received a very limited education, which was mostly acquired in the home schools, but schools were scarce in those days and boys had no such opportunities as are now offered. After the death of his father he assumed control of the farm work, being the oldest son, and for a number of years carried it on very successfully. At length the property was divided among the heirs and the homestead fell to the youngest son, with whom our subject lives. They have made extensive improvements upon the place, erecting barns and feeding sheds for the accommodation of their stock, and have fully tiled the land and placed it under a high state of cultivation. They make a specialty of the raising of cattle and hogs. Our subject is the owner of eleven hundred acres of land in the belt of the most fertile land in the township, upon which he superintends the raising and feeding of stock, which enterprise he has carried on most successfully for some years. Since 1885 he has lived retired from active labor and now rents a part of his land, though he still has general supervision of the same and attends to all repairs.

Religiously Mr. Glinnen is a devout member of the Catholic church and a liberal supporter of the same. On national issues he is a Democrat, but at local elections votes for the men whom he considers best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party lines. He has served as school director in his district for twenty years, and also filled the office of road commissioner in a most creditable and satisactory manner. Though quiet and unassuming, he makes many friends, and is held in high regard by all with whom he comes in contact.

HENRY GRIESER.

Henry Grieser, one of the industrious, enterprising and successful citizens of Waldo township, who has done his part toward making Livingston county one of the foremost agricultural counties of the state, was born in Germany, May 12, 1848, a son of Christian and Catherine Grieser. He lost his mother when only two years old, and his father died two years later. He was thus left an orphan at the early age of four years. He was reared and educated in his native land, and emigrated to America in 1868, locating in Woodford county, Illinois, where he made his home for four years. In 1872 he came to Livingston county and located in Waldo townhsip, with whose farming interests he has since been prominently identified. Throughout his active business life he has engaged n agricultural pursuits, and his labors have met with well-deserved success.

In 1873 Mr. Grieser was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Smith, of Lowa, a daughter of John P. Smith, who now resides in Waldo township, and is one of the

prominent farmers of that section of Livingston county and to them have been born four children, namely: John, Henry, Augustus and Christian. In his political views Mr. Grieser is decidedly a Democrat, and takes a commendable interest in the success of his party. He is one of Waldo township's most reliable citizens, and is a man highly repected and esteemed wherever known.

FRANK R. STEWART.

One of the oldest employees in years of continuous service on the lines with which he is connected is Frank R. Stewart, who is agent for the Wabash and the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroads at Forrest. Long connection with the extensive corporations which control the lines of transportation in our country indicates marked faithfulness, ability and fidelity on the part of employes, and therefore Mr. Stewart's extended connection with railroad interests is a high testimonial of his ability. He has the trust and confidence of the company and is a most popular agent, owing to his uniform courtesy, obliging manner and his fidelity to duty.

A native of Dixon, Illinois, he was born on the 16th of March, 1856, a son of Lewis Henry and Sarah E. (Appler) Stewart. His father was a native of Uniontown, Carroll county, Maryland, born August 28, 1831. The grandfather was also born there and the great-grandfather was the owner of large landed property in that locality. He belonged to one of the old and prominent families of the state and at the time of the Revolutionary war loyally aided the colonies in their struggle for independence.

The father of our subject was educated in the place of his nativity and was recognized as a man of considerable influence in that locality. He married Miss Appler, who was born in Carroll county, in May, 1834, a daughter of Isaac Appler, who lived to be ninety years of age, dying in 1895. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Judith Winters, is now living at the advanced age of ninety-four years. Both he and his wife were natives of England. He became one of the wealthy landholders of Carroll county, Maryland, where he resided until his removal westward, in 1859. He located in Hannibal, Missouri, and there resided until called to his final rest. The father of our subject left Maryland in January, 1856, *en route* for Hannibal, Missouri, and while on the way, during a temporary residence of the family at Dixon, Illinois, Frank R. Stewart was born. The family soon afterward proceeded to Hannibal, where the father remained until 1859, when he went with his family to Quincy, Illinois, and there engaged in merchandising.

During the time when much of the traffic of the Mississippi valley was transported by means of the river, he was one of the leading representatives of commercial interests there, and he carried on business until 1875. He then retired to private life, and seven years later, in 1882, was called to the home beyond. He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and at all times he commanded the respect and esteem of his fellow men. His widow still survives and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, taking an active part in its work. In their family were four children, of whom our subject is the eldest son. He has one brother still living, Charles A., who

is a conductor on the Missouri Pacific Railroad, running between Sedalia, Missouri, and Kansas City.

Mr. Stewart, whose name introduces this review, obtained his education in the schools of Quincy, and received his business training in his father's store, where he spent the months of vacation. In 1878, however, he entered the employ of the Wabash Railroad as brakeman on a passenger train, running between Springfield and Quincy. In 1879, when the Chicago division of the Wabash road was opened, he came to Forrest as brakeman on a freight train, and in February, 1880, was promoted to the position of conductor on a freight train, while in March, 1883, he was made a passenger conductor. In November, 1884, he was injured at Cornwell, Illinois, losing one of his legs. In 1885, after his recovery, he was made clerk in the agent's office, at Forrest, in 1886 was promoted to the position of superintendent's clerk, and on the 30th of November, 1888 he was appointed agent of both the Wabash and the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw roads. The junction of the roads is at this place and the station is a very important one, his duty embracing a general oversight of the business of both roads, passenger, freight and also includes the supervision of the trainmen, numbering thirty. The business of these roads at this point is constantly increasing, due in no small measure to the efforts of the obliging agent at Forrest. Among all the officials and employees of the road there are but two his senior in years of continuous service. He neglects no duty or detail, no matter how slight it may seem, is extremely accurate and careful, and is at all times courteous to the patrons of the road. Those qualities have won him favor with the company and with the public and he has gained the esteem of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

Mr. Stewart is a member of Olive Branch Lodge, K. P., in which he has passed all the chairs. He is one of the oldest representatives of the fraternity in the state, his connection therewith covering a period of twenty-three years. He has six times represented his local lodge in the grand lodge, has many times been district deputy and thus has instituted new lodges and installed many officials. He is also a member of the Order of Railway Conductors, which he joined in 1882—one of the first to become identified with the society. As a member of the board of education he has done efficient service in the interests of the schools, supporting many measures which have proven of value to the schools. He has acted as treasurer of the board and was filling that office at the time the school building was remodeled, and also serving as chairman of the building committee. He has likewise been treasurer of Forrest, and is a citizen whose earnest support and co-operation are given to all measures for the public good.

Mr. Stewart was married on the 28th of November, 1883, to Miss Cordelia Wilson, of Forrest, a daughter of Nicholas and Nancy Wilson. She was born in this city, in 1860, and by her marriage has become the mother of two daughters, Iva Mildred and Greta Rodell. Mr. Wilson, her father, was born in Sweden and became one of the pioneer settlers of this part of the state, being well known at an early day as a peddler and later as a farmer. His wife was a native of Ohio, and with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, came to Livingston county, in 1837, the family here entering

land from the government. Mrs. Wilson knew Shabbona, the noted Indian chief and saw many of the red men in this section of the state. Mr. Wilson passed away in 1877, and his wife, long surviving him, was called to her final rest November 15, 1898.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are members of the Congregational church and in the community where they reside they are highly esteemed for their many excellencies of character. They have a pleasant home in Forrest, which was erected by Mr. Stewart. He is also the owner of considerable farming land in Texas. He was one of the organizers of the Building & Loan Association, of Forrest, whereby many of the comfortable homes of the place have been erected. In his political affiliations Mr. Stewart is a Republican, and is recognized as one of the leading members of the party in Forrest. For twelve consecutive years, prior to 1898, he was a delegate to every county, state, judicial, congressional and senatorial convention and was an alternate to the national convention at St. Louis. He is a recognized factor in political circles and is a man of influence, active and prominent in the community, his labors resulting to the public benefit along social, material, intellectual and moral lines.

PAUL HEISNER.

Paul Heisner, one of the most prosperous agriculturists of Pontiac township, whose home is on section 20, has been identified with the upbuilding and development of this county for over a third of a century. He comes from across the sea, being born in Castle Dume, Prussia, Germany, June 27, 1837, and in that country grew to manhood and served for three years as a soldier in the German army. In the spring of 1864 he emigrated to America, and came direct to Illinois, joining some German friends in Cook county, where he worked as a farm hand by the month for a short time. In October, 1864, he enlisted in Company B, Thirtieth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and joined his regiment at Atlanta, Georgia, in time to take part in Sherman's celebrated march to the sea. He participated in the engagements at Savannah, and through to Raleigh, and after the surrender of the last named city marched through Richmond on his way to Washington, D. C., where he took part in the grand review. Returning to Illinois, he was honorably discharged at Springfield, in July, 1865.

In the fall of the same year Mr. Heisner came to Livingston county, and purchased forty acres of raw prairie and swamp land three miles south of Pontiac, upon which he built a little shanty. For three years he devoted his energies to the improvement and cultivation of that place, and on selling it bought eighty acres in Rock Creek township, of which a few acres had been broken and a small house erected thereon. That farm was his home for about four years, at the end of which time he purchased another eighty-acre tract adjoining, and lived there for six years. On disposing of that place he bought one hundred and forty acres of partially improved land on the river in Pontiac township, where he now resides, and to its further improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his energies with most gratifying results. As his financial resources have increased he has added to his property from time to time until he now owns four hundred and eighty acres of val-

uable and productive land, which he has tiled and placed under a high state of cultivation. Upon this land he has built four good residences, barns and other outbuildings, and was actitvely engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1900, when he rented his land and is now living retired, enjoying a well earned rest upon his farm, which is pleasantly located within two miles of Pontiac. He built a residence and lived in the city for two years, but in 1898 he returned to the farm. He now owns two residences in the citv.

Before leaving his native land, Mr. Heisner was married, in February, 1864, to Miss Catherine Trender, also a native of Prussia, and to them have been born five sons, namely: Philip, a resident of Pontiac; Frederick, William and Frank, who are en-
Paul, Jr., who travels.
gaged in farming on the home place, and

Since casting his first presidential vote for General U. S. Grant, Mr. Heisner has been unswerving in his allegiance to the Republican party, and in this regard his sons all follow in his footsteps. He has never cared for political office, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his business interests, but for six years most acceptably served as school director. Fraternally he is an honored member of T. Lyle Dickey Post, G. A. R., at Pontiac. As a young man he came to America, and with no capital started out in a strange land to overcome the difficulties and obstacles in the path to prosperity. His youthful dreams have been realized and in their busy fulfillment he sees the fitting reward of earnest toil. He is not only one of the most successful men of his community, but is also highly respected and esteemed by all who know him on account of his sterling worth.

LIBERTY LOUDERBACK.

More than sixty-three years ago this gentleman came to Livingston county, and during this long period, which covers nearly the whole span of the county's development from a primitive state to its present flourishing condition, he has been identified with its interests. For over half a century he carried on farming in Amity township, but is now living retired in the village of Cornell.

Mr. Louderback was born in Brown county, Ohio, July 4, 1824, and was given the name of Liberty by his grandfather, Uriah Springer. Michael Louderback, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Germany, who came to this country with two brothers at the close of the Revolutionary war. He settled in Ohio, while one brother located in Virginia, the other in Pennsylvania. Our subject's father, Thomas Louderback, was also born and reared in Brown county, Ohio, and there married Sarah Springer, a daughter of Uriah Springer, who at an early day moved from Virginia to Ohio. There Mr. Louderback followed farming until 1831, when he came to Illinois and settled in Vermilion county, near the present city of Danville, then a cross-roads village. He bought land and resided there a few years, but in 1837 moved to Amity township, Livingston county, where he entered a tract from the government and opened up a farm, on which he spent the remainder of his life, dying there March 6, 1854. His wife had passed away October 25, 1842. In their family were five sons and three daughters who reached mature years, and four sons and one daughter are still living.

Liberty Louderback, who is the oldest of this family, grew to manhood in Amity

LIBERTY LOUDERBACK.

township, only attending school a few months during the winter, but early becoming familiar with every department of farm work. On attaining his majority he began life for himself by working as a farm hand or at any occupation which he could find. He took up a claim of about one hundred and twenty acres of land, broke fourteen acres, and commenced farming. On the 26th of April, 1849, in Livingston county, he married Miss Mary Jane Corbin, who was born in Virginia, in 1827, but was reared in this county as her father, David Corbin, with his family, located here in 1831.

Mr. and Mrs. Louderback began their domestic life on his farm in a primitive log cabin with furniture of his own manufacture. His first land he purchased from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and to the original tract he added until he had two hundred and twenty-two acres of valuable land on section 20, Amity township, which he placed under a high state of cultivation and improved with good buildings. He continued to actively engage in farming until 1877, when he moved to Cornell and purchased the property where he has since made his home. He was interested in the real estate and insurance business for a time, but is now living a retired life.

Mr. Louderback has been called upon to mourn the loss of his estimable wife, who died May 11, 1900, and was laid to rest in Cornell cemetery. Six children were born to them, namely: John H., who is married and now operates the old homestead farm; George W., who owns and operates a farm adjoining the homestead; Chester W., who is married and lives in St. Louis; Julia, widow of Thomas J. Gregory, and a resident of Cornell; Hersey J., wife of Harry L. Manley, of Streator, Illinois; Hattie C., wife of W. H. Graser, of Luverne, Rock county, Minnesota.

In 1854 Mr. Louderback was elected justice of the peace, and most creditably and acceptably filled that office for nearly thirty-five years. He is familiarly known as Squire Louderback. He also served as supervisor five years, township treasurer, collector and school trustee, and always performed his duties in a faithful and satisfactory manner. He cast his first presidential vote for James K. Polk, in 1844, and became identified with the Republican party on its organization, voting for Fremont in 1856, but since 1878 he has been a Prohibitionist, having always been an earnest advocate of temperance. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Cornell, and his upright course in life commends him to the respect and confidence of all who know him. His labors as one of the founders of the county justly entitle him to a prominent place in its annals.

CHRISTIAN WELTE.

Christian Welte, a prosperous and progressive farmer residing on section 31, Nebraska township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, December 20, 1842, and is a son of Vincent and Elfans (Strubb) Welte. When he was five years of age the mother died leaving a family of six children, namely: Marcellus, now a resident of El Paso, Illinois; Bertha, wife of John Rover, of Iowa; Ansilem, deceased; Joseph, who was a member of Company F, Fifty-sixth New York Volunteer Infantry, and during the Civil war was killed at the battle of the Wilderness; Ma-

tilda, wife of Christian Reust, of Kansas; Christian, the subject of this biography; Sebastian, of Panola, Illinois, and Peter, of Wurtemburg, Germany. Under the guardianship of the father the family emigrated to America in 1855 and settled near the Catskill mountains, in New York, where they resided two years and then came to Illinois, finally locating in Woodford county. The father died in 1872, in Nebraska township.

The same year Christian Welte came to Livingston county and purchased the farm where he now resides. Its neat and thrifty appearance shows conclusively that he is a man of good business ability and sound judgment, as well as a thorough and scientific farmer. On the 7th of November, 1867, he married Miss Margaret Ingeler, of Woodford county, and to them have been born eight children, namely: Staffan, wife of William Kalwarf, of Flanagan; Thomas, a resident of Woodford county; Joseph and Christian, both of Flanagan; Effie, wife of R. C. Evans, of Chalmers, Indiana; John, Margaret and Clara, all at home.

When the war of secession threatened to destroy the Union, Mr. Welte turned from the quietude of home to join the awful scenes of death and carnage south of the Mason and Dixon line. He enlisted at Minonk, August 16, 1861, in Company I, Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and participated in the engagements of New Mardid, Island No. 10, Shiloh, Farmington, Corinth, Jackson, Black River, Pleasant Hill and the siege of Vicksburg. In the Red river expedition he took part in the engagements at Fort Berusha, Alexander, Grand de Core, Shreveport, Mansville, Lake Chicoch, Tupelo and several minor skirmishes. He was wounded in the second battle of Corinth. His term of enlistment having expired, Mr. Welte was discharged at Springfield, Illinois, October 11, 1864, and is now an honored member of the Grand Army Post at Minonk. Although born on the other side of the Atlantic he has become a thorough American citizen in thought and feeling, and is as true to his duties of citizenship in times of peace as when he followed the old flag to victory on southern battle fields.

CYRUS S. ELLIS.

Cyrus S. Ellis, a well-known farmer residing on section 22, Long Point township, has been a valued citizen of Livingston county, since December, 1879, Coming from near Magnolia, Marshall county, this state. He was born in Greene county, Ohio, February 11, 1829, and is a son of Isaac and Elizabeth (Venamon) Ellis, natives of Virginia, who spent the greater part of their lives in Greene county, Ohio, where the father followed farming during his active business career. He died on the home place at the age of fifty-seven subject several years. She died at the age years, having survived the mother of our of thirty-nine, after which he was again married, his second union being with Amanda Aldridge, a widow, by whom he had three children, namely: John, a member of an Ohio regiment during the Civil war and now a resident of that state; Jesse, who lives in southern Illinois, and James, who died at the age of thirty-five years. By the first marriage there were ten children, of whom one died in infancy. Three sons and two daughters are still living: Cyrus S., our subject; Milton W., a retired farmer of

Nebraska; Henry R., who served three years as a member of Company H, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and is now living in Iowa, but was formerly a resident of Cornell, Illinois; Hannah, the wife of John Hay, who lives in northern Ohio; and Emily, wife of Thomas Brenn, of La Salle county, Illinois.

Cyrus S. Ellis was but two years old when the family left Xenia, Greene county, Ohio, and moved to Clinton, the same county, where he attended the common schools, remaining with his father on the home farm until the latter's death. At the age of seventeen he started out in life for himself, and in 1854 removed to Indiana, where he operated a rented farm for two years. At the end of that time he came to Illinois and made his home in Marshall county for twenty-two years, his time and attention being devoted to general farming. In the meantime he purchased land in Nebraska, and on selling it bought his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 22, Long Point township, Livingston county, Illinois, but did not locate thereon until two years later, in 1879. At that time is was not improved to any extent, but he has since tiled it, erected a house and other buildings, planted an orchard and otherwise improved the place.

On the 23d of January, 1851, Mr. Ellis married Miss Martha J. Curtis, who was born in Clinton, Ohio, May 23, 1834, a daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Lyons) Curtis, who after her marriage moved to Indiana, where they spent the remainder of their lives. She has two brothers still living, namely: Edward, a resident of Marshall county, Illinois, and James, of Savanna, Ohio. Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Ellis three died in early childhood, while Mary F., wife of Amos Lake, of Toluca, Illinois, died April 28, 1900, leaving one daughter, Blanche. Those living are Luemma, who is the wife of William Gill, a representative farmer of Long Point township, and has one son, Frank; Laura, at home; Frank, a general farmer of Long Point township, who married Lyda Coleman and has three children, Bessie, Ora and Vera; Albertine, who married Frank Clark, of Reading township, and has one son, Elmer; Cora, wife of Carl Stratton, of Long Point township; Edwin, a barber of Flanagan, who married Alta Ensign and has one daughter, Elita; Alva C. and Ray, both at home assisting in the farm work. The children were educated in the common schools and are well fitted for the positions they fill.

Mr. and Mrs. Ellis are active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he is now one of the trustees, and has held other offices. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, but has never cared for public preferment, though he has efficiently served as school director for a number of years.

REV. HORACE TIFFANY.

For two-score years the Rev. Horace Tiffany has dwelt in Livingston county, and few citizens of this portion of Illinois are better or more favorably esteemed by the inhabitants. His devotion to the people and his long years of indefatigable labors for their welfare, have met with a just reward in one respect, at least—that his name has been a household word for goodness and self-sacrifice, and to his posterity he will leave a record of which they must be proud.

The Tiffany family is of English origin and early in the history of Connecticut they were numbered among her pioneers. Horace Tiffany, for whom our subject was named, was born in Connecticut, whence he removed to Delaware county, New York, in its infancy, and there became influential and prosperous. His son, Walter, father of our subject, was born on the old homestead in Delaware county, and for three decades or more he was actively engaged in agriculture there. In 1856 he came to Illinois and for twenty-one years was successfully occupied in farming near Victoria, Knox county. In 1870 he removed to a homestead in the vicinity of Cambridge, Illinois, and February 27, 1872, he as summoned to his reward. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died when the son was young, and the father subsequently married again. The wife of his youth bore the maiden name of Jane Hammond, and her father, Jonathan Hammond, was an early settler in Delaware county, New York, in which state her birth took place. He was from the old Green Mountain state, and was prominently connected with the founding of Delaware county.

The birth of the Rev. Horace Tiffany occurred upon the parental homestead in Delaware county, September 4, 1831. He received the benefits of the public schools of that period and later attended the New York Conference Seminary at Charlottesville for two years. Thus thoroughly equipped for the arduous duties of life, the young man commenced his career as a teacher and for seven consecutive years devoted himself to educational work.

In 1855 Mr. Tiffany removed to Victoria, Illinois, and for three years subsequent to his arrival here he taught school. In 1858 he began preaching the gospel as a local preacher and in September, 1860, he joined the Central Illinois conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, and was licensed to preach the gospel. In 1862 he was ordained to the office of deacon and two years later was constituted an elder in the church. For forty years he has dwelt in Livingston and other counties and for a score of years he was one of the regular circuit riders, five congregations being under his charge during a part of this period. In many a humble home he conducted funeral services, officiated at weddings, participated in happy reunions and gatherings of the country people and old settlers, and wherever he went he found the genuine, hospitable welcome, characteristic of our pioneers. He is greatly loved in hundreds of these homes and no one in this section of the state is more certainly enshrined in the hearts of the young and old. He has dwelt in Cornell for several years and previously lived in Reading and Rooks Creek townships, this county. For some four years he devoted his time as county missionary in Livingston county in Sunday school work and was greatly blessed in the noble enterprise. In accordance with his convictions of duty, he has given his influence to the Prohibition party for the past quarter of this century, but in his early manhood he was a Republican.

In Otsego county, New York, Mr. Tiffany and Lucy J. Teel, a native of that county, were united in marriage, March 27, 1851. She was called to the better land, June 12, 1897, and her place in this community can never be filled. Seven children mourn the loss of their revered mother, and her lovely life and high example will always prove an inspiration to them, as to all

who knew her. O. M. and Arthur E. are engaged in newspaper work, the latter being the editor of the Cornell Journal. O. M. and L. H. Tiffany are residents of Tama county, Iowa; W. B. is enaged in the grain business at Oneida, Illinois; Orrin S. is a carpenter of Streator, Illinois, and William S., of Cornell, is one of the street commissioners. Rosa is the wife of U. G. Connett, who owns a jewelry establishment in Cornell.

WILLIAM BIDDLE.

William Biddle, a prominent and well-to-do farmer of Newtown township, Livingston county, is an Englishman by birth and training. He was born in Staffordshire November 7, 1833, and is a son of Lionel and Elizabeth (Cumberbach) Biddle, who spent their entire lives in that county, where the father followed the occupation of farming. In the family were ten children, but two died before attaining the age of twenty years, and all are now deceased with the exception of Jane, wife of James Sjifferbotham, of England, and William, the subject of this sketch.

In the schools of his native land Mr. Biddle acquired his education, and when a young man commenced working in the mines, following that pursuit for forty years. He was married, in England, in 1853, to Miss Harriet Barnett, and they have become the parents of three children, two born in that country and one in Illinois. (1) William, the eldest, is now engaged in mining in Missouri. He is married and has three children: Albert, who lives with our subject; John and Herbert. The wife and mother makes her home in Streator. (2) John A., who is living upon a part of his father's farm in Newtown township, is married and has two children, Lyle and Cecil. (3) Walter, who is engaged in farming near Walnut, Lee county, Illinois, is married and also has two children, Bertha and Guy.

It was in 1869 that Mr. Biddle came to the United States and first located in Pennsylvania and later in Ohio, but in the spring of 1870 came to Streator, La Salle county, Illinois, where he followed mining for twenty years, and then came to Livingston county. In 1889 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 28, Newtown township, and has since devoted his time and energies to agricultural pursuits. As he was a good miner, he is also a good farmer, and is meeting with most excellent success in his operations, carrying on general farming and stock raising. He has tiled, fenced and improved his land, making it a most desirable farm. Religiously Mr. Biddle and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and politically he is identified with the Democratic party, but has never been prevailed upon to accept office, though he takes an active and commendable interest in public affairs, and does all in his power to advance the interests of his township and county.

JACOB GINGRICH.

Jacob Gingrich, who, during the entire span of his life, nearly three-score years, has been associated with the development and rapidly increasing prosperity of Livingston county, is honored and respected by all who enjoy his acquaintance. He always has

given his earnest support to schools and public enterprises calculated to benefit this community and the state in general, nor has he been remiss in the wider duties of a patriotic son of America.

The subject of this review is of German ancestry, though his father, John Gingrich, was born within the borders of France. For a wife the latter chose Barbara Garber, a German lady, and together they came to the hospitable shores of the United States sixty years ago. They settled in Woodford county, Illinois, cleared and improved a farm and extended their possessions until eight hundred acres comprised their landed estates. The father departed this life in 1845, and to his widow was left the task of rearing their nine children. All lived to maturily and four of the number still survive.

The birth of Jacob Gingrich took place in Woodford county, Illinois, July 28, 1842, and it was not until during the last year of the Civil war that he removed from his native county. He aided his mother and brothers in the management of the homestead, and when he was a mere youth he mastered the carpenter's trade and gave his attention to that calling exclusively for two or three years. When the president issued his first call to the lovers of the Union, he was one of the first in his county to respond. He enlisted in April, 1861, and served for three months, in the meantime assisting in taking Columbus, Kentucky, and participating in various campaigns. He was seriously ill about the time that his three months' enlistment was completed, and he was honorably discharged from the service. Returning home he took up the duties of the old homestead when he had sufficiently recovered and remained there about three years.

In 1864 Mr. Gingrich and Susan Farrell were joined in wedlock. She was born in Ohio and is of German parentage. Eleven children bless their union, namely: Gustavus, who is married and is engaged in farming in Iowa; John; David, who is married and living in Flanagan, Illinois; Peter; Eunice, wife of Leonard Harris, of this county; Emma; Lizzie and Priscilla, who are successfully engaged in teaching in this county; Manuel; Jacob, Jr. and Susie. All have received excellent educational advantages and are well qualified for the battles of life.

Ruring the first year of their married life our subject and wife lived upon a rented farm near Chenoa, McLean county, Illinois. Subsequently they removed to Waldo township, Livingston county, and for fourteen years resided upon two farms in that locality. Then, coming to Amity township, Mr. Gingrich rented land for a period, and in 1888 invested his carefully saved funds in the property where he now dwells. Here he owns two hundred and ninety acres, about two-thirds of which is under the plow and producing good crops each year. The land was timbered, save a tract of swamp and twenty-seven acres of cleared land, at the time that it came into his possession, and there was no improvements in the shape of buildings. He built a small house and industriously began the great task of clearing and developing the farm, and to-day the place bears little resemblance to that of long ago. Substantial fences and farm buildings speak well for the enterprise of the owner, and the numerous fruit and shade trees add greatly to the beauty of the place.

In political matters Mr. Gingrich is a Democrat, though he has no aspirations to occupy public positions. He believes in lo-

cal improvements and has materially aided in the maintenance of good government, well-cared-for bridges and proper educational facilities for the young. He enjoys the confidence of his neighbors and all with whom he has had dealings, and to his children he will leave the priceless heritage of an untarnished name.

CHARLES ALBERT DIXON.

Charles Albert Dixon, one of the representative citizens of Newtown township, residing on section 5, is a native son of Livingston county, born May 18, 1852. His parents, Charles and Sarah (Hodges) Dixon, were born, reared and married in England, and on their emigration to America first settled near Dixon, Lee county, Illinois. In early life the father followed the mason's trade, but after coming to this state engaged in farming and the manufacture of brick in connection with work at his trade. From Dixon he removed to Magnolia, Putnam county, and in 1848 came to Livingston county, where he purchased one hundred and seventy-five acres of land at the government price of one dollar and a quarter per acre. Our subject now holds the original deed for the same. At that time it was all wild prairie, and the first home of the family in this county was a rude structure built of rails, the cracks being stopped up with mud. They endured many hardships and privations; all grain had to be hauled to Chicago with ox team, the trip consuming two weeks, while the driver had to camp out at night by the side of the road. Chicago at that time was quite a small place. In his new home the father met with well merited success and was able to spend his last days in retirement from active labor at Streator, where he died in 1879. His wife departed this life in 1871. He was an ardent worker in the United Brethren church, helped to erect many churches of that denomination and contributed liberally to their support. In his political views he was a Republican and did all in his power to advance the interest of his party.

Our subject grew to manhood upon his father's farm and was educated in the common schools. When quite young he took up auctioneering, and has since devoted a portion of his time to that calling, dealing in all kinds of goods and meeting with most excellent success. As a general farmer he has also prospered and is now the owner of one hundred and thirty-five acres of land of the old homestead. He has erected a new house and barn, planted an orchard, tiled the land and otherwise improved it, transforming it into one of the most desirable places of its size in the township. He devotes considerable attention to stock raising for market and breeding purposes, making a specialty of Poland China hogs and Norman horses. He has made farming a study, and by perseverance, industry and good management has met with most gratifying success.

In 1875 Mr. Dixon was united in marriage with Miss Annie Mason, a native of La Salle county and a daughter of Edward and Nancy Mason, who have been dead for a number of years. She is one of a family of three children, the others being James H., supervisor of Streator township and a resident of Streator; and Celestia, wife of Henry Deenis, of the same place. Mr. and Mrs. Dixon have two children: Clarissa Mae, who was educated at the Streator high

school, and Arthur Calvin, a graduate of the same school, and now cashier and bookkeeper in N. L. Arthur's store at Streator.

By his ballot Mr. Dixon supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and has held several minor offices, serving as school director nine years, constable four years and thistle commissioner six years. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, No. 534, of Long Point; the Dramatic Order of the Knights of Khorassan, No. 22, of Streator, and the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 1444, of which he has been banker for two years. He is widely and favorably known throughout the county, and by those who know him best he is held in the highest regard.

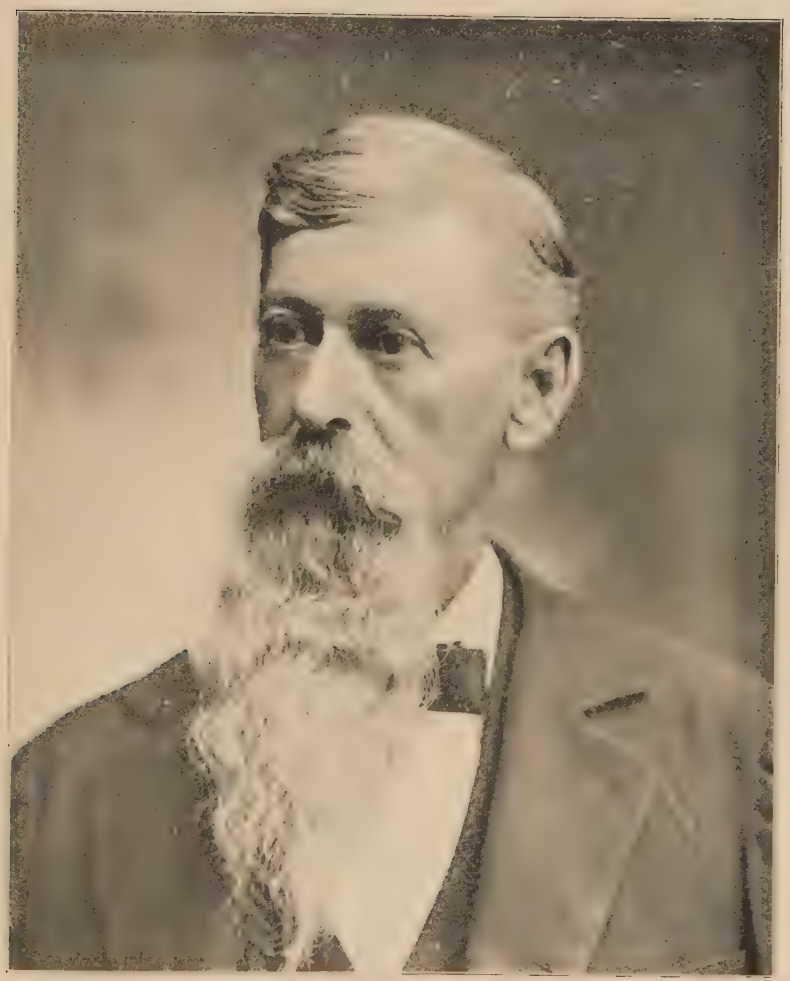
F. M. PATTERSON.

F. M. Patterson, a prosperous and substantial citizen of Reading township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, May 16, 1840, and is a son of J. W. and Jemima (Lovell) Patterson, also natives of Greene county, which was the birthplace of his paternal grandfather, Daniel Patterson. The latter's parents were from Paterson, New Jersey, which place was named for early representatives of the family in this country. His ancestors came originally from Scotland and settled on this side of the Atlantic in early Colonial days. Those bearing the name of Patterson took part both in the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812.

In early life the father of our subject learned the brickmaker's trade, which he followed for some years in Pennsylvania and later engaged in farming. In 1854, in company with his wife and children, he came west and located in Cook county, Illinois, ten miles from the court house in Chicago, which city at that time contained about forty thousand inhabitants. There he was manager of a brickyard one year, and four of his sons worked in the same. At the end of that time moved to Deer Park township, La Salle county, where he engaged in farming upon rented land three years, and in 1858 became a resident of Sunbury township, Livingston county, where he also rented land for a time. At the breaking out of the civil war he enlisted in the Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and after being mustered in at Ottawa went immediately into active service with his regiment. He was in a number of notable engagements, and was killed at the battle of Fort Donelson in 1862. In politics he was a Republican, and always took an active part in local affairs. His wife survived him about fifteen years, and died at her home in Streator.

In their family were eight children, namely: Stephen P. was for many years a farmer of Reading township, but is now living a retired life in Streator; Rachel A. is the wife of J. Fowler, of DeKalb, Illinois; Jesse H. has made his home with our subject for the past twenty-five years; Francis Marion, our subject, is next in order of birth; Hugh S. is engaged in lead and silver mining in Denver, Colorado; Barnett W., deceased, was a farmer of Deer Park township, La Salle county; Arthur I. is a mason of Streator; and Carrie S. is the wife of Dr. E. E. Williams, a practicing physician of Streator.

Francis M. Patterson began his education in the schools of his native county, and for a time attended school in Deer Park township, La Salle county, and Sunbury



F. M. PATTERSON.

township, Livingston county, Illinois. He was fourteen years of age when he came with the family to this state, and began his business career as an employe in a brickyard near Chicago. Later he worked at farm labor during the summer season, while he attended school through the winter months. In 1867, with his mother, he moved to Streator, where he learned the carpenter's trade with William H. Milligan, a contractor and builder at that time, and later he engaged in the same occupation on his own account for about fifteen years, and the same time operating a planing mill, which was the first built in Streator. He erected the first school house in that place, and did an extensive business, a large portion of the city being built under his supervision. Mr. Patterson also owned and conducted a lumber yard. In 1887 he purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 11 and 12, Reading township, from the Plumb estate, and has since engaged in farming and stock raising, in which he has also met with marked success. He annually feeds many cattle and hogs which he sells to the local dealers. In 1898 he leased forty acres of his land to a syndicate of Streator for the purpose of sinking a coal shaft, and from that source now receives a royalty of fourteen cents for screen coal and ten cents for mine run. He owns city property, both business and dwelling houses, in Streator, and has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Fillmore county, Nebraska. In 1894 he erected upon his farm in Reading township a fine residence of nine rooms, finished in oak, with closets and a cellar.

In politics Mr. Patterson is a stanch Republican, and cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, in 1864. He has been a delegate to numerous county conventions of his party, and was chairman of his delegation the last time. For two terms he served as school director, and in the spring of 1895 he was elected supervisor of Reading township, which positions he creditably filled until the spring of 1899. He was chairman of the committee on swamp lands two years, and at different times was a member of nearly all the more important committees. He is pre-eminently public-spirted and progressive, and gives his support to any enterprise which he believes calculated to advance the general welfare of his township or county.

PHILANDER MORGAN.

Philander Morgan, a highly respected and honored citizen of Strawn, Illinois, now living a retired life, is a worthy representative of the early pioneers of this section of the state, and a true type of the energetic hardy men who have actively assisted in developing and improving this beautiful and fertile agricultural country.

Mr. Morgan was born October 11, 1835, in La Salle county, Illinois, on a farm north of Streator, and is a son of Ress and Rebecca A. (Reeder) Morgan. The family was founded in America in 1624 by three brothers, natives of Wales, who first settled in Virginia, but later one went to the Carolinas, another to Kentucky, while the great-great-grandfather of our subject remained in Virginia and founded the village of Morgantown, that state. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary war. The one that located in the Carolinas was the father of General Morgan of Revolutionary fame. Our subject's grandfather, William Morgan,

was a native of Virginia, where he made his home for many years, and then moved to Uniontown, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in the manufacture of nails by hand. In 1833 he came to Illinois and settled north of Streator in La Salle county, where he died about a year later.

Ress Morgan, father of our subject, was born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, in 1808, and remained there until 1828, when he came to Pekin, Illinois, and enlisted as a private in the Black Hawk war. He was in Stillman's defeat and remained in the service until hostilities ceased, being discharged at Ottawa in 1832. He then spent one year at his old home in Pennsylvania, and at the end of that time returned to Illinois, where he soon afterward married Miss Rebecca A. Reeder, a daughter of David and Sarah (Whittaker) Reeder. Her father was a native of Virginia and a planter by occupation. In 1784, during his boyhood, he removed to Cincinnati, where he was later engaged engaged in mercantile business until 1829, and then came to Pekin, Illinois, where he followed farming for a time. He was the first county judge of Tazewell county. In 1834 he settled north of Streator in La Salle county, where he died in 1852, his wife in 1860, leaving five children, of whom the mother of our subject was fourth in order of birth. The Whittaker family, from which she was descended, was also of Welsh origin and was founded in New Jersey in 1620, making their home there for many generations. Her grandmother Whittaker moved to Ohio in 1782, and in 1829 came to Illinois.

After his marriage Ress Morgan lived in Pekin for a time, and in 1833 moved to La Salle county, where he was engaged in the sawmill business and in farming. He served as county treasurer and assessor from 1848 to 1852. In the latter year he and our subject crossed the plains to California with ox teams and spent three years in prospecting and mining, returning to Illinois in 1855. In 1860 he moved from La Salle to Livingston county and located in what was then Belle Phairie township, but is now Fayette township, having been set off from the former. Here he continued farming until his death, which occurred in the village of Strawn in 1880. His wife also died in that place in 1883, and the remains of both were interred at Gibson, Illinois.

This worthy couple were the parents of nine children, all born in La Salle county, of whom our subject is the eldest. (2) Mary is the wife of Moses M. K. McDowell, a stock raiser of Gibson, and they have two children: Frank and Thomas, who are engaged in the commission business at the stock yards in Chicago. (3) Foster, a farmer of Francisville, Indiana, married Sarah Case, and they have one child, Warren. (4) David R., now a farmer of Lake City, Iowa, married Virginia McDowell, of Fairbury, Illinois, and they have two children, Paul and Geneva. (5), Courtland, a nursery man of Spring Valley, Minnesota, married Alice Taylor, of that state, and they have three children: Jessie R., Estella and Weaver. (6) Rebecca was for many years engaged in teaching in the district schools of Livingston county, but is now living in Gibson, Illinois. (7) Sarah is the wife of Charles Mackey, of Streator, who is in the mail service, and they have two children: Belle, wife of Lewis Patch, of Streator, where he is engaged in operating a foundry, and Bernice, wife of William Gillett, who is engaged in mercantile business in Streator. (8) Laura is the wife of F. C.

McDowell, a stock raiser of Gibson. (9) Nettie is engaged in the millinery business in the same place.

Philander Morgan is indebted to the common schools of La Salle county for his educational advantages. At the age of sixteen he went with his father to California, where they engaged in prospecting and mining for three years, and then returned home by way of the Panama route. In 1860 he came with his family to Livingston county, the father having a farm of eight hundred acres in what is now Fayette township, but at that time formed a part of Belle Prairie township. He assisted in the arduous task of breaking the land and placing it under cultivation. Since the death of his parents he had looked after the property accumulated by himself and father, but is now practically living a retired life in the village of Strawn, where he owns a home. He also has some village property in Gibson, and owns a large amount of farming land in Iowa, where he spends some time looking after his interests in that state.

Politically Mr. Morgan is a Jeffersonian Democrat and has taken quite an active and prominent part in local politics, having served as supervisor of Fayette township one term, assessor eighteen years and highway commissioner for the same length of time. He laid out all the roads in the township and gave to it the name of Fayette, after the county in which his father was born, and which was also the birthplace of Richard Hannah, then supervisor of the township. Our subject's sister Mary was the first to be married in the new township, and Mary Jane McCormick, now the wife of William Somers, of Strawn, was the first child born there. Mr. Morgan has seen almost the entire development of this region, and as a public-spirited and enterprising man he has aided materially in promoting its interests, assisting in transforming the cultivated districts in the state. He has been a member of the village board a great many years and president of the same ten years.

JOHN H. BRUCE.

John H. Bruce, whose pleasant home is situated in section 34, Amity township, Livingston county, is one of the substantial agriculturists of this section of the state. He has been a witness of the major portion of its development and has himself played no unimportant part in the transformation of the wilderness into the beautiful, productive farm lands of to-day.

Mr. Bruce, who is a second cousin of General John A. Logan, is a son of Thomas and Ellen (Logan) Bruce. The father, a native of Scotland, departed this life when our subject was young. The mother was a daughter of John A. Logan, who also came of the stanch old Celtic stock, and whose birthplace was in the northern part of Ireland.

Born July 26, 1834, in Glasgow, Scotland, John H. Bruce remembers little of his father, and was reared by his uncle, Robert Bruce. About 1840 this worthy man emigrated to Nova Scotia, and there the youth of our subject was passed. He received a fair education in the public schools, and in 1856 he determined to go to the west and make his fortune. For two years he resided in Kansas, and, as he had previously learned the blacksmith's trade, he found plenty of employment. For nearly two years he served as a member of the state troops, for in those

days and in that locality Kansas was the scene of fierce factions, for and against slavery and state's rights.

In 1858 Mr. Bruce went to California by the long overland route and spent about a twelvemonth on that coast. He engaged in mining operations to some extent, but found that his trade was more certain of good recompense, and for a period he was employed by the Overland Stage Company in shoeing mules and horses. In the fall of 1861 he returned by stage through Arizona and Texas, and then came to Livingston county. Here he bought two hundred and forty acres of unimproved land, and at once commenced the great task of placing it under cultivation. For several years he conducted a blacksmith shop in connection with his farming, and is was not until 1864 that he came to dwell upon his land in Amity township. Within a few years he had cleared away the timber and brushwood with which the land was encumbered, and later he further improved parts of the property by laying tile where needed, planting an orchard and building fences, enlarging and remodeling the house which he had originally constructed, putting up barns and granaries. By his well-directed energy he has made a competence and the reputation of being one of the most thorough, practical farmers and keen financiers of this region.

The marriage of Mr. Bruce and Sarah Edwards took place in this county September 6, 1863. She was born and reared in this part of Illinois and spent her entire life here. She was called to the home beyond September 14, 1875, and left two children, namely: Nettie, wife of Lewis Kyerson, of Rooks Creek township, Livingston county, and Mary, wife of Andrew Wiggins, of Iowa. Mr. Bruce wedded Mary Horrie, September 3, 1876. She is a native of New York state, and is of English descent, as her father, David Horrie, was born in England. Elizabeth, the first-born child of J. H. and Mary Bruce, married J. J. Phillips, of Chenoa, Illinois. William H., the only son of our subject and wife, is a promising young man. He assists in the management of the home farm and is identified with the Illinois state guards.

The first presidential ballot of J. H. Bruce was cast for Lincoln. Of late years he has been independent of party and votes for the man or measure best entitled to his support, in his opinion, regardless of party lines. Fraternally he is a member of the Odd Fellows order, is past grand of his lodge and has represented it in the grand lodge of the state. For a quarter of a century he has served as a member of the school board, and for much of this time he has been clerk of this district. With his wife and daughters he belongs to the Baptist church, contributing liberally to its support.

JOHN T. PHILLIPS.

John T. Phillips, whose farm of one hundred and sixty acres is pleasantly located on section 10, Pike township, Livingston county, six miles from Chenoa, was born in Tazewell county, Illinois, September 14, 1837, and is a son of Alfred and Susanna N. (Cullom) Phillips, natives of North Carolina and Kentucky, respectively. The father was born in 1794, and in 1804 moved to Wayne county, Kentucky, with his father, Cornelius Phillips, who was also a native of North Carolina. In 1830 Alfred Phillips moved to Illinois in company with his brothers-in-law, Richard N. Cullom and

William Brown, all bringing with them their families and settling in Tazewell county, where Mr. Phillips opened up a farm, making it his home until his death, in 1875. His wife survived him, but died the same year, at the age of seventy-one years.

The subject of this sketch was reared and educated in the county of his nativity, and in early life assisted in the operation of the home farm. He was married, in Tazewell county, February 28, 1861, to Miss Elizabeth S. Monroe, a native of Scotland and a daughter of William Monroe, who brought his family to this country in 1853, when she was fourteen years of age, and located in Tazewell county, Illinois, where she grew to womanhood. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have nine children living, namely: Lilly is the wife of John H. Sandmeyer, a farmer of Pike township. They have a family of eight children, Edith, Eugene, John, Lillian, Isabel, Avis, Elizabeth and Vincent. Isabel is a well educated lady and has been engaged in teaching for some years. William A. married Sophia Salzman, and they have two children, Llewellyn and Julia A. He is engaged in farming in Pike township. Edward A. is married and is also engaged in farming in Pike township. Lucius C. married Elizabeth Crabbe, and their children are Shelby and Kenneth. Their home is in Pike township, where he is engaged in farming. Margaret is the wife of C. A. Jamison, of Amity township, Livingston county. They have three children, Estella, Harold and Ross. Morris M. married Nellie Blake and they have one child, Mildred. He is also engaged in farming in Pike township. Maud and Ralph W. E. are at home. Those deceased were Nora, who died at the age of three years, and Jane T., who died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Phillips engaged in farming upon rented land in Tazewell county until 1870, when he came to Livingston county and purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Pike township, which place he sold in 1875, and now owns the farm where he now resides. He is a thorough and skillful farmer, and the neat thrifty appearance of the place plainly indicates his careful supervision. Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1860, he has given his unqualified support to the Republican party and its principles, and has taken an active and prominent part in local politics, serving as a delegate to nearly all the county, state, congressional and senatorial conventions of his party. He filled the office of assessor of Pike township twenty years, and has been a trustee of the township for a number of years. Whatever position he has been called upon to fill, its duties he has always most capably and satisfactorily performed, and he is numbered among the useful and valued citizens of his community. His estimable wife is a member of the Presbyterian church.

STEPHEN H. PATTERSON.

Stephen H. Patterson, one of the successful farmers and stock raisers of Livingston county, is ranked among our representative citizens. He is an honored veteran of the Civil war and is deservedly popular among his old comrades. At present he is serving as commander of the Grand Army Post at Cornell, and discharges his important duties in a highly commendable and efficient manner.

Several generations of the Pattersons

dwelt in Pennsylvania, and the maternal ancestors of our subject—the Helms—also were numbered among the pioneers of the Keystone state. A son of Samuel and grandson of William Patterson, natives of Washington county, Pennsylvania, Stephen H. was born January 26, 1840. His birthplace, as well as that of his mother, Mrs. Eliza (Helm) Patterson, also was in the county mentioned, and there the lad grew to manhood. His maternal grandfather, William Helm, was of German extraction.

In 1852 the Patterson family removed to Illinois, the father, Samuel Patterson, buying a farm in La Salle county. Later, he sold that place and came to Livingston county, locating on the quarter-section of land in Amity township, now owned by our subject. He had lost his first wife in 1852, and is survived by the lady who afterwards bore his name. He was called to the silent land in 1879 and four sons were left to mourn his loss. One son, Charles, had offered his life upon the altar of his country, his death having occurred while he was in the Union army, at St. Louis, in 1863. Another son, John, who was married and resided in La Salle and Livingston counties, died a few years ago. William and Samuel are agriculturists of La Salle county.

Stephen H. Patterson early learned the lessons essential to the successful farmer, and, under his father's wise instructions, he laid the foundation for a prosperous career. When he was in his nineteenth year he started out to make his own way in the world, and, carefully husbanding his small earnings, he finally had sufficient funds to embark in business on his own account. Locating near Streator he rented a farm for five years, after which he bought out the interests of the other heirs of his father's homestead and returned to the place so dear to him, by old associations. To the original tract of one hundred and twenty acres, he subsequently added forty acres. Industriously setting about the task of improving the farm he soon had everything in fine running order, and by judicious expenditure greatly increased the value and productiveness of the place. He keeps a good grade of cattle and hogs and has been successful in stock raising.

On Christmas day, 1871, Mr. Patterson wedded Cynthia Hathaway, in La Salle county. She is a native of Washington county, Pennsylvania, and is a daughter of Simeon Hathaway, who removed to La Salle county, Illinois, more than thirty years ago. Three children bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Patterson. Charles, the eldest, is an enterprising young man, now engaged in assisting to carry on the home farm. Guy and Emma, twins, are yet under the shelter of the home roof-tree. A little girl, Ida May C. Patterson, also is numbered among the members of this happy household.

On the 11th of August, 1862, Mr. Patterson enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fourth Illinois Infantry. His regiment was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, and with his comrades our subject took part in many of the important campaigns of the Civil war. He was actively engaged in the battles of Chattanooga, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain and subsequently in the Atlanta campaign, where for nearly five months there was almost constant fighting along the line. He aided in the capture of Atlanta, marched with Sherman on his famous march to the sea, and, afterwards went to Washington and participated in the grand review, one of the most stirring events and memorable scenes of this

republic. He was honorably discharged from the service in Chicago, June 17, 1865, when the terrible conflict had come to a close.

His first presidential ballot was cast for General U. S. Grant, and with the exception of a few times when he supported Prohibition nominees, he has given his allegiance to the Republican party, as in this, alone, he sees the best policy for the country. For three years he served as commissioner of highways and for several years he has officiated as a member of the school board and as clerk of the same. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Protestant church. He is one of the trustees of the congregation and has been a very active and valued worker in the Sunday school.

HENRY A. SAEMISCH.

Henry A. Saemisch, a representative farmer of Livingston county, residing on section 2, Long Point township, is a native of Germany, born in Prussia, October 13, 1844, and is a son of Andrew and Julia (Rice) Saemisch, natives of the same province. In that country the father followed the cooper's trade until 1852, when with his family he emigrated to the new world. After about a year spent in La Salle county, Illinois, he came to Livingston county and located in Long Point township, where he worked at his trade for some time, hauling the product to Utica. In this way he secured a start in life and was at length able to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land, although he had no capital on coming to the county. His success was due entirely to his industry, perseverance and good management. He died in 1883, at about the age of eighty-five years, but his wife, who was born in 1816, still survives him. She is still living in Long Point township. Both were members of the German Lutheran church, and in politics the father was a Democrat. Of the ten children born to them the following are still living: Louisa, wife of Jacob Schoenleber, of Ransom, La Salle county; Fritz, a farmer of Cass county, Iowa; Henry A., our subject; Mary, wife of Charles Kaiser, Pottawattomie county, Iowa; Robert J., a resident of Long Point township, Livingston county; Julia, widow of Theodore Girard and a resident of the same township, and Andrew, also of Long Point township. Julia and Andrew were born in Illinois, the others in Prussia, Germany.

The subject of this sketch was quite small on the emigration of the family to America, and his education was obtained in the common schools of Long Point township. He remained at home until about thirty-five years of age, managing the farm for his father, and acquiring an excellent knowledge of all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. In 1881 he was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Stiethman, who was also born in Prussia, in 1855, and when about seventeen years of age came to this country with her sister, Augusta, now deceased. They were the only members of the family in America. Five children were born to our subject and his wife, but two died in early childhood. Those living are Frank H., Luella and Bertha A., all at home. They attended the district schools, and Frank was also a student at a German school in Streator for one term.

After his marriage Mr. Saemisch located on the farm on one hundred acres in Long Point township, which he had purchased in 1870. At that time it was all wild prairie and swamp land, but he has tiled and drained it, erected good and substantial buildings, planted an orchard and otherwise improved the place, so that it is now one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. He carries on general farming and has met with good success.

Religiously Mr. Saemisch is a member of the Lutheran church, and, politically, is independent, voting for the man whom he believes best qualified to fill the position regardless of party lines. He has served as school director in his district for a number of terms, and has always faithfully discharged any duty devolving upon him, whether public or private.

NATHAN SPRINGER.

In tracing the history of the Springer family, of which the subject of this review is a worthy representative, it is learned that the founder of the branch in the United States was one Christopher Springer, who was a native of Germany. He had resided in Sweden previous to his coming to these hospitable shores, and there had occupied a responsible position. When a little colony of Swedish people decided to come to this country he joined their ranks, and with them located on lands near Wilmington, Delaware, and from that point his descendants have emigrated to all sections of this continent.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Uriah Springer, was born and reared in Virginia, and at an early day removed to the wilds of Brown county, Ohio. His son, Nathan Springer, Sr., was born on the old homestead, which had been cleared in the forest. When he arrived at maturity he chose Lydia Lucas as a wife, and about 1832 they removed to Vermilion county, Illinois, accompanied by their respective parents and families. Mrs. Springer was a native of Brown county, Ohio, and was a daughter of John Lucas. After tilling the soil in Vermilion county for a score of years, Nathan Springer, Sr., came to Livingston county, where his father had taken up a large tract of land and had become wealthy and influential. He had served in various local positions and was looked up to with respect by all who knew him. When the death summons came to him he was placed to rest in Short Point cemetery, which he had laid out on his own land, in Amity township. From 1853 to 1872, the year of his death, Nathan Springer, Sr., was actively and successfully engaged in farming in Long Point township. He had located on a quarter-section of prairie land, and diligently improved the place, building a substantial house and barn. His devoted wife survived him nineteen years and for much of this period she was a member of her son, Nathan's household. The father attained the age of three-score and ten, while the mother was in her eighty-fifth year when she was called to her reward. Both are sleeping their last sleep in Earp cemetery, in Amity township.

The birth of Nathan Springer, Jr., took place in Vermilion county, Illinois, June 9, 1845, and his boyhood was spent in the usual pursuits of country lads. He learned to love his native land with the devotion of a true patriot, and when her stability was threatened, he eagerly responded to the call of the

president for loyal sons, ready to lay their lives down for their principles. He was only seventeen years old when he enlisted in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, in 1862, and he faithfully served in the ranks of Company C until the close of the war, his honorable discharge from the army occurring June 19, 1865. He participated in some of the most important campaigns of the great war, at first being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. Among the numerous battles in which he took part, Buzzards' Roost, Resaca, Dallas, Kennesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek and Bentonville may be mentioned. His last service was under the leadership of Sherman in the Atlanta campaign, where battles and skirmishes were of almost daily occurrence. The last serious conflict in which he was engaged was that of Bentonville, North Carolina, and after marching from Richmond to Washington, he was one of the blue-coated veterans who were in the Grand Review. During his long and arduous service, the young man was slightly wounded three times and three or four times was in the hospital for short periods.

For two or more years subsequent to his return home, Mr. Springer aided in the management of the parental farm. After his marriage, in 1867, he rented a farm and a few years later purchased a tract of wild land in Long Point township. When he had materially improved the property he sold it and removed to Allen county, Kansas. For about one year he engaged in farming there and then, in 1884, returned to Illinois and rented land for another year. About fifteen years ago he located upon his present homestead in section 19, Amity township, and at once instituted a series of changes in its management. He has built a comfortable house and barns, and by tiling and fencing has materially increased the value of the farm.

The marriage of Mr. Springer and Mary Catherine Carpenter took place September 12, 1867. Mrs. Springer is a native of Ohio and since 1854 has been a resident of Illinois, as in the year mentioned her father, Robert Carpenter, became a pioneer of Livingston county. Robert M., the eldest child of our subject and his wife, is married and is a successful farmer of this county. During the Spanish-American war he enlisted and was sent to Porto Rico for a period. Charles Walter is married and is numbered among the farmers of this township. Nathan, Martha and Francis are at home. Alonza, who is the head of the household in this township, is engaged in tilling the soil. Otto C., a promising young man in his nineteenth year, was accidentally killed, March 22, 1898. Sarah Elizabeth died at the age of four years.

For two years Mr. Springer officiated as assessor, and after serving for two terms —some five years—as highway commissioner, he resigned, in order to give his whole attention to his business affairs. A firm friend to education, he acted as a member of the school board for a score of years or more, and also was clerk of the district. Fraternally, he belongs to the Masonic fraternity, and, politically, he is a Democrat. He enjoys the esteem of all of his neighbors and associates, as he justly deserves, for his course of life has been upright and honorable.

HENRY BELDEN WATSON.

Henry Belden Watson, a thrifty and enterprising farmer residing on section 15, Forrest township, Livingston county, Illi-

nois, was born in Litchfield county, Connecticut, February 5, 1837, a son of George and Jane (Belden) Watson. On the maternal side he is of the tenth generation in direct descent from Richard Belden, a native of England, who settled in Wethersfield, Connecticut, in 1640, and died in 1655. His son, John Belden, was born in England, in 1633, was married, April 24, 1657, and died in 1677, in Wethersfield, Connecticut, leaving seven children. One of these, Jonathan Belden, was born in Wethersfield, January 21, 1660, was married, October 10, 1685, to Mary Wright, and died July 6, 1734. Of their five children, Silas was born in Wethersfield, July 23, 1691, was married, November 30, 1716, to Abigail Rubens, and died in 1742, leaving seven children. His son, Silas Belden, Jr., was born in Wethersfield, November 30, 1717, and moved to Caanan, Connecticut, where he died in 1773. Jonathan Belden, son of Silas, Jr., was born in 1738, and married his second cousin, Sarah Belden, who was born in 1744, and died October 26, 1777, while he died January 9, 1774. Their son, Jonathan Belden, Jr., was born June 17, 1773, and married Love Dean, who was born October 10, 1783, and died September 8, 1832, while he died September 24, 1831. They lived near Falls Village, Connecticut, and were the maternal grandparents of our subject.

The paternal grandfather, Thomas Watson, was born in New Hartford, Connecticut, October 15, 1763, and throughout life followed farming. On the 1st of January, 1797, he married Millicent Wetmore, who was born January 10, 1772, a daughter of Joel and Sarah (Yyman) Wetmore. The grandfather was a member of Colonel Zebulon Butler's regiment in the Continental army during the Revolutionary war, and for his service he was receiving a pension at the time of his death, which occurred January 23, 1850, on the old homestead farm in the same house where our subject was born. He was a man of independent mind and conservative in his views, was a Henry Clay Whig, and a member of the Congregational church. Industrious and frugal in his habits, he became a successful farmer and at the time of his death left an estate which inventoried, free from incumbrance, fifteen thousand one hundred and fifty-eight dollars. George Watson, father of our subject, was born in New Hartford, Connecticut, March 12, 1812, and followed the occupation of farming in that state until 1843, when he and his family came to Illinois, locating in Warren county, where he purchased a tract of government land at one dollar and a quarter per acre. This he broke and improved, making it his home throughout the remainder of his life. He died at Roseville, Illinois, November 26, 1886. He was an extensive farmer and stock raiser and a prosperous and successful business man. In New Hartford, Connecticut, he was married, September 10, 1833, to Jane Belden, who was born at Falls Village, that state, March 4, 1811, and died, April 22, 1867.

There were three children by this union, of whom our subject is the eldest. (2) Emma V., the second, is the wife of Charles Hotchkiss, a farmer of Cheshire, Connecticut, and they had three children: Minnie, born January 2, 1869; Clarence H., who was born September 24, 1870, and died May 24, 1877, and Harriet T., born January 27, 1877. (3) Irene Jane, born November 3, 1840, is the wife of Harry Wooding, also a farmer of Cheshire, Connecticut, and they have two children: Ida Estella, born Sep-

tember 8, 1868, married Benjamin Hatfield, July 12, 1890, resides in New Haven, Connecticut; and Waldo, born February 23, 1874, unmarried, resides in Cheshire with his parents.

In 1844, at the age of seven years, Henry B. Watson, of this review, was brought to Warren county, Illinois, by his uncle, Roman Watson, where he lived until he attained his majority, herding sheep on the prairie about eight years and later doing other farm work. He then engaged in farming on his own account until after the Civil war broke out, when he enlisted at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 3, 1863, in Company A, First Wisconsin Artillery. He was promoted to second lieutenant in the Eleventh United States Artillery, February 2, 1865, and honorably discharged at Providence, Rhode Island, October 25, 1865. The hardest fought battle in which he took part was that of Fort Stevens, near Washington, July 11, and 12, 1864, and it was here that he received his promotion and commission of second lieutenant. After his discharge he returned to Illinois, and bought eighty acres of his present farm in Forrest township, Livingston county, for which he paid fifteen dollars per acre. In 1882 he purchased another eighty acres, paying for the same forty-five dollars per acre, and now has a fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is well tiled and under excellent cultivation. His home is one of the best in the township.

Mr. Watson was married, November 11, 1868, at Forrest, to Miss Emma J. Francis, who was born August 15, 1850, a daughter of John and Margaret (Ross) Francis. They have three children, of whom Flora Adelaide, born January 16, 1870, is the oldest. Thomas F., born September 1, 1871, is engaged in farming on section 19, Charlotte township. He married Alice Owen, and they have three daughters: Mary, Bessie and Florence. George Edward, born January 21, 1885, is attending school and assists his father on the farm.

Religiously Mr. Watson is a member of the Congregational church, and, socially, is a member of Forrest Post, No. 114, G. A. R., of which he has been commander several times. He always affiliates with the Republican party, but has never sought office. He is entirely a self-made man, who by hard work, perseverance and good management has become quite well-to-do and highly respected.

THOMAS WHALEN.

Thomas Whalen, who is wel and favorably known in Roks Creek township, Livingston county, is a native of Ireland, his birth having occurred February 8, 1845. He is a son of Michael and Mary (Doran) Whalen, of counties Wexford and Carlo, respectively. The father, who was born in 1787, departed this life when in his sixty-sixth year, and the mother lived until February, 1886.

Thomas Whalen was about four years of age when he accompanied the parental family to the United States. Sailing from the Emerald Isle to New Orleans and thence proceeding up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Ottawa, Illinois, they located on a farm on the 17th of March, 1849. Some three years subsequently the father was summoned to the silent land, and to the mother fell the task of rearing their six sons and four daughters, and of the number only one is deceased at the time of this writing.

In 1856 Thomas Whalen, his mother and brothers and sisters, came to Livingston county, and for forty-four years he has been associated with its upbuilding. His educational privileges were extremely meager, but by observation and reading he has become well informed on general topics since he reached manhood. He possesses the ready wit and keenness of perception so characteristic of his race. Ofttimes he has been called upon to make addresses at public meetings and on the Fourth of July. His first address was at Flanagan, July 4, 1885. With the exception of two years he has delivered addresses at different points each year since.

Loyally did Thomas Whalen aid his mother in the maintenance of the family when he was a young man, and it was not until October 22, 1871, that he embarked on an independent career, his marriage to Miss Mary Wheeler being solemnized on that date. A native of La Salle county, Illinois, she came to this locality when six years of age, and after uniting her fortunes with Mr. Whalen she faithfully shared his joys and sorrows during the early years of his struggling for a competence. She was called to her reward December 20, 1885, her youngest child, Fannie, being but three weeks old. Katie, the first born, received an excellent education in the public schools at Morris, Illinois, and in St. Mary's College, South Bend, Indiana, and is now employed as a teacher in that institution of learning. Mary, the next child, is numbered among the teachers of this county. Fannie resides with her maternal grandparents, and Josephine is at Morris, Illinois, in school. John W., the only son, now an enterprising young man, is helping to carry on the old homestead. On the 8th of February, 1893, our subject married Miss Kate McGreham, who was born and reared to womanhood in Ireland.

For two-score years Thomas Whalen has been engaged in tilling the soil in this county. In 1866 he purchased his farm on section 7, Rooks Creek township, and here has made wonderful changes for the better. He planted fruit and shade trees, built fences, a substantial house and barns, and otherwise improved the property. In 1875 he bought forty acres, thus increasing the boundaries of his farm until it comprised one hundred and twenty acres, and in 1892 he invested in an additional eighty acres. Success has attended his efforts, as he justly deserves, and sterling rectitude of word and deed has won him the high regard of friends and neighbors.

Politically, Mr. Whalen is independent, voting for the nominee or measure which, in his opinion, is best qualified to benefit the county, permanently. In 1888 he was elected to the office of justice of the peace, and by consecutive re-elections has been the incumbent of this responsible position for the past twelve years. He has also served on the local school board, and for some time has been the district clerk, as well. He was the first president of the county Farmers' Alliance on its organization. With his family, he belongs to the Catholic church at Flanagan.

FREDERICK RISS.

Frederick Riss, one of the leading German-American citizens of Livingston county, and a successful farmer of Newton township, was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, February 2, 1851, and was brought to this

country in 1856 by his parents, Christian and Helena (Wingleman) Riss, who were born in the same province as their son. The family first located in La Salle county, Illinois, which at that time was wild and unimproved and but sparsely settled, their nearest neighbors living about ten miles away. There the father rented land for seven years and successfully engaged in general farming. He then came to Livingston county, and prospering in his farming operations here he became the owner of two hundred and seventy-four acres of valuable land, which he divided among his children. His success was due entirely to his own well-directed labors, as he had to borrow the money with which to come to America. By trade he was a mason and followed that occupation in Germany and also in this country in connection with farming. Politically he always affiliated with the Republican party, but took no active part in politics. He was a member of the Evangelical church, a strong supporter of the same, and one of its trustees for many years. He died November 21, 1899, his wife January 20, 1890, honored and respected by all who knew them. Of the six children born to them one died in infancy before the emigration of the family to America; Charles is a farmer of Nebraska; Sophia is the widow of Ernest Pappenburg, a farmer of Livingston county, and she still reside on the home place; Frederick is next in the order of birth; George is engaged in the implement business in Streator, Illinois; and Mary is the wife of Frederick Welge, who owns and operates a quarter-section of land in Newton township.

The subject of this sketch was only five years old when he crossed the Atlantic and became a resident of La Salle county, Illinois, and in the common schools of this state he acquired his education. He grew to manhood upon the home farm, assisting in its operation until twenty-four years of age. After his marriage he settled upon his present farm, which was given him by his father, and to its further improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his energies. In 1893 his residence was destroyed by fire at a loss of over one thousand dollars, and he has since erected a nice, commodious house, supplied with modern improvements. He has added to his landed possesions at time, but has since disposed of some of his property, and now owns one hundred and twelve acres, which he has tiled and placed under a high state of cultivation.

On the 25th of December, 1874, Mr. Riss married Miss Carrie Bruner, who was born in La Salle county, June 26, 1854. Her parents, John M. and Annie (Henney) Bruner, were both natives of Germany, but were married after their emigration to this country. The mother is now deceased, and the father makes his home near Hastings, Nebraska, at the age of eighty years. Of their thirteen children only two are living in Livingston county, John and Mrs. Riss. Our subject and his wife have a family of eight children, namely: Edward, who is quite successfuly engaged in dairy farming in Norwood Park, Illinois, and who was a member of Company A, Third Regiment, United States Army, and served during the Spanish-American war both in Cuba and the Pilippines as a musician, and is now confined at home with rheumatism from the effects of his service; Levi, who is working as a farm hand in La Salle county; Albert, who assists his father with the farm work; Mary, Frank, Jesse, Otto and Annie, all at home. The children have been given good

common-school advantages and later took an elective course at the Northern Illinois Normal School at Dixon.

In his political affiliations Mr. Ross is a Republican, and has held the office of road master and school director for several years. He and his family are prominent members of the Evangelical church of Russell, of which he has been trustee for a quarter of a century and superintendent of the Sabbath-school. He has always taken an active

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EDWIN R. LUCAS.

For forty-four years Edwin R. Lucas has been closely associated with the development of Livingston county, and within his recollection marvelous changes for the

county population. In his boyhood herds

reached over these prairies, and to-day this same territory supports a large number of happy, useful citizens, who are playing an important part in the economy of this com-

ended in an honored place in the annals of his state, for he has been a loyal, worthy citizen, in peace and war alike.

John B. Lucas, grandfather of the above, was born in Virginia, there married in Kentucky and later to Bowman county, Ohio, where he was one of the early settlers. In

one of the first white settlers. His son, John B., father of Edwin R. Lucas, was born in Brown county, Ohio, January 4, 1820, and from his fourteenth year his life has been spent in Illinois, with the exception of one year. He grew to manhood in Vermilion county, and there wedded Sally Smith, a native of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. She died when her son, Edwin R., was an infant, and the father subsequently married again, and is survived by this wife. In 1833 he went to Grundy county, Missouri, but at the end of a year he returned to this state and settled in Amity township, Livingston county. Here he bought eighty acres in section 10, erected a log cabin, and soon cleared much of the land. Later he sold the place and bought another of like size in the same section, and, after developing the property, disposed of it and invested the proceeds in one hundred and eighteen acres, situated on the Vermilion river, in Amity township. This homestead, also, was improved by him and substantial buildings erected. His home was here for many years, and until his death, December 20, 1868.

The birth of Edwin R. Lucas occurred February 27, 1844, in Vermilion county, and his youth was passed in the quiet routine of country life. A great crisis, however, in his own life, as well as in that of his country, was approaching, and as soon as his age entitled him to a place in the ranks of soldier-heroes, he enlisted in the defense of the Union. It was in July, 1862, that he became a private of Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Regiment of Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. His brother, John B., died at Bowling Green, Kentucky, in the following January, from illness due to army service. Before going to the front our subject received a sunstroke at Kankakee, Illinois, and while he

was in the service he had sieges with the measles and the small-pox. He was detailed as a scout for eight months while in Tennessee, and one of the most notable military maneuvers in which he took part was the charge at the fort near Resaca, Georgia. Then followed the battles of Cassville, Burnt Hickory and Lost Mountain, and at the last named place his regiment was in a charge and went within one hundred and twenty paces of the masked batteries of the enemy, at which point they remained twenty-four hours, until the enemy retreated. On the 20th of July, 1864, he was a participant in the hard-fought battle of Peach Tree Creek, where there were many [illegible] contests. During [illegible] was in [illegible] being under fire almost [illegible] months. The battles of Averysburg and Bentonville (North Carolina) were the last ones in the southeastern states, and then the brave boys in blue were mustered out. The One Hundred and Twenty-ninth was honorably discharged in Chicago, June 16, 1865, after having marched to Washington and participated in the grand review.

For four or five years afterward Mr. Lucus industriously worked at agricultural pursuits, and subsequent to his marriage, in 1870, he commenced keeping house in a small cabin. Year by year he accumulated more of this world's goods and by careful investments and improvements trebled or quadrupled the value of his farm. The place, comprising eighty acres, is located in section 19, Amity township, and a comfortable home [illegible] such will be the [illegible]

[illegible] years. Mr. Lucus has found a true helpmeet in his wife, formerly Martha A. Conwell. She was born in Licking county, Ohio, a daughter of John H. Conwell, who died in that state. The mother later married Elijah Dean, and the family removed to Mercer county, Illinois, at an early day. The marriage of our subject and wife occurred in Waldo township, Livingston county, April 10, 1870. Their eldest child, Anna A., is [illegible] ty. Vista married William Bement, of Long Point, Illinois. Viola J. is the wife of Warren Winter, and Lillie L. wedded A. G. Wider, of this county. Edwin Harper and Jesse Ross are at home, assisting in the work of the farm, and Millie L. completes the family circle. Three children are deceased.

Though he was reared in the Democratic faith, Mr. Lucus, after making a thorough study of the party principles, cast in his lot with the Republicans, and is one of its staunchest adherents. He has acted as a commissioner of highways for six years and for three years served on the local school board, but has never been desirous of office. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic, and his wife is an honored member of the Woman's Relief Corps.

RICHARD M. HOIT.

Richard M. Hoit, an honored veteran of the civil war and one of the representative farmers of Livingston county, residing on section 6, Waldo township, was born in Peoria, Illinois, June 27, 1842, and is a son of James W. and Ellen (Ingram) Hoit, natives of Lancastershire, England. They

emigrated to America and settled in Illinois, in 1840, spending the remainder of their lives as farming people in Peoria county, where the father died in 1895, the mother in 1894. They had a family of seven children, namely: Thomas, a resident of Peoria county; Richard M., our subject; Eliza, wife of Henry Morris, of Peoria county; Martha, wife of James Morris, of Peoria; Elizabeth, wife of John Yetter, of Peoria; and John and Frederick, both residents of the same place.

Reared on a farm in his native county, Richard M. Holt attended the public schools of the neighborhood and early acquired an excellent knowledge of agricultural pursuits. On starting out in life for himself he commenced farming in Peoria county, where he was living when the civil war broke out. On the 8th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company K, Seventy-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, his company being organized in Rosefield township, Peoria county. They were first sent to Cincinnati, and from there went to Louisville, Kentucky, where they were assigned to the Thirteenth Army Corps. They were in a number of skirmishes up the Yazoo river, and took part in the battle of Arkansas Post. They went into camp at Young's Point, Louisiana, and later took part in the seige of Vicksburg, being placed in the rear of the Confederate army during that siege. They were in the engagement at Yazoo river and in the other charges against Vicksburg. After the fall of that city they were given a furlough which they spent at home, and then rejoined the army at Decrase Pount, Texas, where Mr. Holt was discharged on account of disability.

Returning to Illinois, he remained at home one year, and then engaged in farming in Peoria county two years. In the spring of 1867 he came to Livingston county, and settled on section 6, Waldo township, where he has since successfully engaged in general farming. On the 11th of January, 1868, Mr. Holt was united in marriage with Miss Charlotte Morris, a daughter of Henry and Ann (Rigley) Morris, who were natives of England and early settlers of Peoria county. By this union have been born the following children: Mattie, wife of John Roth of Woodford county; Anna, wife of Robert Boyd, of the same county; James, of Livingston county; Harvey, Harry, Elmer, Ella and Richard, all at home.

By his ballot Mr. Holt supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and for twelve years he has acceptably served as school director of his district. He is one of the progressive and enterprising farmers of Livingston county, and is a man of whom any community might be justly proud.

CHARLES S. EARP.

Charles S. Earp is a worthy representative of a family whose name has been closely identified with the history of Livingston county since the days of its infancy, some seventy years. His valuable homestead is one of the landmarks of Amity township, as it has been under steady cultivation for more than half a century.

Here the birth of Charles S. Earp occurred July 26, 1849, and here, with his seven brothers and sisters he passed his early years, laying the foundations of health and strength, upright principles and industrious habits. Two of the number and their devoted parents, Charles and Hester Anna

(Molledge) Earp, have been called to the better land, and the surviving members of the family occupy honored places in the communites where they dwell. The Earps originated in England, and our subject's father was reared in the British Ise. When he had come to the United States and settled in Ohio he there made the acquaintance of his future wife, herself a native of England, but from childhood a resident of the Buckeye state.

About 1830 Charles Earp, with his wife and their two children, removed to Illinois. The father took up four hundred acres of land in Amity township, and with characteristic energy set about the great task of clearing and improving the place. In the course of time, the first humble dwelling and barn were replaced by large, well built structures, and fences, orchards and other improvements trebled the original value of the farm. The father, who was loved and revered by his neighbors and associates, passed to his reward in 1873, and the mother, who survived him many years, at last followed him to the silent land.

During his entire life, fifty-one years, Charles S. Earp, of this sketch, has resided upon the homestead which he still cultivates and manages. His educational advantages were limited, as the little district schools of his boyhood in this locality were few and poorly conducted, bearing small resemblance to those of the present day. He remained with his father until the death of that sterling pioneer, and subsequently the young man purchased the interests of the other heirs and succeeded in the ownership of the old home. It comprises a quarter of section 29, and is considered one of the most desirable pieces of farm property in this region. Mr. Earp has drained some of the low lands with ditches and tiling, and by other expedients has increased the tillable acreage.

Never having been a politician in any sense, Mr. Earp has resisted all propositions to the effect that he should officiate in public positions, and when he has cast his ballot for Democratic principles and nominees, according to his belief, he feels that he has performed his whole duty as a citizen. Socially, he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to the lodge at Cornell. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and strives conscientiously to meet all of the obligations resting upon him, in all of the relations of life.

About twenty years ago the destinies of Mr. Earp and Miss Anna Furgus were united by a marriage ceremony, performed in this county. She was a native of Shelby county, Ohio, and was reared to womanhood there, later becoming a resident of Illinois. She was summoned to her eternal rest, May 11, 1898, and, turning from her quiet grave in the Earp family cemetery, her innumerable friends and dear ones sorrowfully returned to the duties awaiting them, feeling that her place in the community can never be filled. Five children are left to mourn the loss of a loving, tender mother, namely: Elmer, Cora, Ernest, Reuben and Clyde. They are receiving good educational advantages and are surrounded with all of the comforts and privileges which their wise father can furnish them, or considers to be for their permanent benefit.

WILLIAM McKINNEY.

William McKinney, a prominent retired farmer living on section 29, Reading township, Livingston county, Illinois, was

born September 20, 1833, near Lancaster, the county seat of Fairfield county, Ohio, and is a son of Patrick and Mary A. (Gilkie) McKinney, the former a native of Scotland, the latter of London, England. The father, who was a stone mason by trade, came to this country at an early day and settled in Ohio, where he was employed as superintendent in charge of the construction of the locks of the Ohio canal. He was an expert at his trade and the locks are as good to-day as when built. He died suddenly of heart failure when our subject was only eight years old, and the mother died of consumption four years later. Their children were William, our subject; Annie, deceased; Patrick, a retired business man of Newark, Licking county, Ohio; and Mary, who died in childhood.

After the death of his parents William McKinney made his home with Samuel Cruiker, a farmer of Licking county, Ohio, until he attained his majority. He was only able to attend school about one month during the winter. The school house was a primitive structure built of logs, with puncheon floor, slab benches and one log cut out to make a window. The greater part of his education has been acquired by reading and observation since reaching manhood. In the fall of 1853, at the age of twenty-one years, he came to Illinois in company with his future father-in-law, William F. Hunt, the journey, which was made by team, consuming three weeks. They located near Bloomington, where he rented land for six years.

Soon after reaching Bloomington Mr. McKinney was married, October 18, 1853, to Miss Albina Jane Hunt, a daughter of William F. and Mary L. (Barnes) Hunt, natives of Vermont and the former of Revolutionary stock. Mr. Hunt was a strong abolitionist, and in Ohio kept a station on the famous underground railroad, thus aiding many a poor slave on his way to Canada and freedom. To one of his sons he gave the name of Lovejoy. His children were Albina Jane, wife of our subject; Fidelia, wife of Seymour Chambers, of Ohio; E. P. Lovejoy, of Orange county, California; William L. G., who was a member of Cushman's brigade in the Civil war and was starved to death in Libby prison at the age of seventeen years; Cornelia, wife of George Olmstead, a wholesale jeweler of Kansas City; Myron H., who died in California; Lenora, widow of Egbert Pratt and a resident of Ohio; and Virgil, state evangelist for the Second Adventist church, living in Santa Cruz, California. After coming to Illinois the father of this family engaged in farming in Livingston county until 1872, when he sold out to our subject and moved to Sumner county, Kansas, locating near Wellington, where he died December 3, 1875. His wife survived him some time, dying in California. All the trees upon our subject's farm were set out by Mr. Hunt and his wife. On receiving the news of President Lincoln's assassination he set out a hard maple, to which he gave the name of Old Abe, and which is now a magnificent tree.

To Mr. and Mrs. McKinney were born ten children, namely: Samuel G. died at the age of thirty-two years, leaving a widow and one child, both now deceased; Clarence P. died at the age of eighteen months; Clara E. died at the age of seven years; Mary E. died at the age of eighteen months; William Lincoln also died at the same age; Annie L. died at the age of fourteen years; Nettie J., a resident of Pontiac, is the widow

of Daniel Murphy and has three children, Harold, Zeta M. and Francis; Jennie is the wife of Dr. Perisho, a practicing physician of Ancona, Illinois; one son died in infancy; and Cornelia A. is a graduate of the Pontiac high school and is now at home with her parents.

After his marriage Mr. McKinney rented land in McLean county for six years and then purchased a small tract from his father-in-law, in Reading township, Livingston county, but continued to operate rented land until 1872, when he bought one hundred and sixty acres of Mr. Hunt and located thereon, making it his home ever since. He has successfully engaged in general farming, and besides his farm property he now owns building lots in Pontiac, Streator and Chicago. He and his wife were formerly members of the United Brethren church, and in politics he is independent, voting for whom he considers the best man, regardless of party lines. For twenty years he most efficiently served as road commissioner in Reading township, and all its iron bridges were built under his supervision. He was a school director for a number of years, and built the Prairie Creek school house. In 1899 he and his wife traveled all through the west and spent several months in California. They are widely and favorably known and have a host of warm friends in the community where they have so long made their home.

MYRON W. TAMBLING.

Myron W. Tambling, the present efficient supervisor of Round Grove township and one of its leading citizens, was born in La Salle county, Illinois, January 20, 1850, and is a son of Villeroy A. and Harriet S. (Morgan) Tambling, natives of New York and Connecticut, respectively. The progenitor of the Morgan family in America was James Morgan, who was born in Wales in 1607, and removed with his family from that country to Bristol, England, prior to 1636. In March of the latter year he and two brothers, John and Miles, sailed for America and landed in Boston during the month of April. John became one of the earliest colonists of Virginia, and Miles was one of a colony from Roxbury, Massachusetts, to found the city of Springfield, that state. James Morgan, from whom our subject is descended, located in Roxbury, and there he was married, August 6, 1640, to Margery Hill. Their son, Captain John Morgan, married Rachel Dymond, and among their children was William Morgan, who wedded Mary Avery. Their son, Captain William Morgan, married Temperance Avery, and they became the parents of Captain Avery Morgan, who served as sergeant in the battle of Bunker Hill during the Revolutionary war. He married Lydia Smith. Our subject's maternal grandparents were William and Ora (Pellet) Morgan.

Villeroy A. Tambling, our subject's father, was born February 25, 1820, and when a young man removed from New York to Chester, Ohio, where he was married, May 17, 1843, to Harriet Smith Morgan, who was born April 13, 1814, and died September 13, 1856, leaving five chidren, namely: Catherine E., now a resident of Lakewood, Chautauqua county, New York; Mary L., who first married a Mr. Kellogg, and second E. L. Kenyon, of Batavia, and is now deceased; Ora A., wife of W. H. Kyle, of Terre Haute, Indiana; Myron W., our sub-

jen; and Robert S., a farmer of Stockton, Michigan. Soon after his marriage the father of these children moved to La Salle county, Illinois, where he entered govern-

1851 returned to Ohio, where his wife died. He then came back to Ottawa, La Salle county, Illinois, where he remained until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he enlisted at the first call for troops, becoming a member of the Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under command of Colonel Wallace. Later he re-enlisted in Company C, Fifty-third Regiment and participated in the battles of Hatchie's Run and Holly Springs, where Colonel Earl was killed. After serving three years he veteranized and was commissioned lieutenant of the Thirteenth United States Colored Troops. After the war Lieutenant Tambling located in Ottawa, where he worked at the carpenter's trade, but for some time he has been living at the Veterans Home in Napa county, California.

Marvin W. Tambling was

his parents returned to Ohio, and was only six years old when his mother died, after which he came to Illinois with his father. He was eleven years old when his father entered the army and from that time has made his own way in the world. During the school years, when eight, nine and ten years old, he attended school in Ottawa,

he went to work in a [illegible] school district. In December, 1871, he came to Dwight to assist a cousin in

with Oliver Wilcox, hardware and implement dealer, with whom he had previously lived on a farm in La Salle county. After clerking for him three years he entered the Grand Prairie Seminary at Onarga, Illinois, where he pursued a scientific course, with the intention of teaching. He spent one summer in the employ of Parsons & Hensel, successors of Mr. Porter.

then returned to the seminary. Later he taught school in Iroquois county, and during the winter of 1875-76 taught in district No. 3, Round Grove township, this county.

On the 8th of March, 1876, Mr. Tambling married Miss Emma E. Spyder, who was born in La Salle county December 27, 1853. Her father, Jesse Spyder, was born in Adams county, Pennsylvania, and at the age of fifteen engaged in running from Chambersburg, that state, to Pittsburg and Baltimore. In 1837 he married Hannah L. Lininger, of Franklin county, Pennsylvania, and to them were born eight children, namely: William H., born August 25, 1838, died on the home farm February 3, 1860, unmarried; Susan C., born August 10, 1841, is the wife of Z. Simonson, of Denison, Texas; Samuel L., born May 31, 1843, was a soldier of the Civil war; Jesse L., also a soldier, born March 14, 1845, is an auctioneer living in Dwight; Harriet L., born January 12, 1847, who was married at the same time her sister Emma, to James H. Foster, who is master mechanic in a

David M., born February 2, 1850, is a

Emma E., [illegible] 1853, was married to the county

Illinois, and in [illegible] 1853 the family removed to Ottawa, La Salle county, Illinois, and in 1855 [illegible] of Round Grove township, [illegible] where the latter taught school [illegible] Jesse, the youngest child, [illegible] Mrs. Tambling.

friend from Pennsylvania, Cyrus Thomas, have two quarter-sections. He made his home in the northeast quarter and owned and operated a good farm of two hundred acres. In 1868 he moved to Dwight, where he lived retired throughout the remainder of his life. At the time of his death, which occurred October 15, 1898, he also owned the southwest quarter of section 16, which is now a part of the estate. He was a celebrated auctioneer, and for some time made that his business. He took an active interest in public affairs, was a supporter of the Republican party and held several township offices, including those of supervisor and school trustee. He was reared in the Lutheran faith, but after his removal to Dwight united with the Methodist Episcopal church, and fraternally was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His estimable wife died October 9, 1890.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Tambling are Albertus M., who married Harriet Beatty, daughter of J. H. Beatty, and resides in Round Grove township; Jesse A., at home; Harriet L., a popular teacher of Round Grove township; Robert R., Myron E., Emily Alice, Villeroy G. and Lila B., all at home.

Since his marriage Mr. Tambling has made his home in Round Grove township and has successfully engaged in farming and school teaching. He taught five winter terms in district No. 3, one in district No. 5 and one in district No. 9. In connection with general farming he has given considerable attention to stock raising, and always keeps a good grade of stock. He owns and operates a good farm of one hundred and twenty acres on section 9.

Mr. Tambling is one of the most prominent and influential men in his community and a recognized leader of the Republican party in Round Grove township. He has always taken an active part in public affairs, was a member of the school board when the school house was built in his district, was elected collector in 1880 and re-elected for the succeeding term. He served as school trustee one year, township treasurer two years, and in 1895 was first elected supervisor, which office he has now filled six consecutive years with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. During his first term the town house was built. He is an active member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal church of Campus, to which his wife also belongs, and served as superintendent of the Sunday school for some years. Fraternally he is a charter member of Dwight Lodge, No. 513, I. O. O. F., and is also a member of Campus Camp, No. 2619, M. W. A., and Dwight Lodge, No. 35, I. O. M. A.

CHARLES H. GREGORY.

Four and a half decades cover the period of the Gregory family's residence in Livingston county, and few of its pioneers and founders have been more highly esteemed and honored. That beloved and revered minister of the gospel, Rev. T. J. Gregory, father of the subject of this article, did a great and noble work in this region, and his name was lovingly and familiarly spoken in hundreds of households whose atmosphere had been brightened and made happier by his presence and timely aid. Both he and his estimable wife were natives of Lancashire, England, whence they emigrated to the United States in 1855, at once

settling in this country. The wife, whose maiden name was Ellen Holdtsworth, was also a licensed minister, and frequently occupied the pulpit and assisted her husband in revival meetings. She was born August 31, 1820, and died August 16, 1900. He died in 1886.

The birth of Charles H. Gregory occurred here, in section 29, Amity township, June 27, 1860. His avantages educationally were not of the best, but he made the most of his opportunities, and by private study and reading has made himself a well-informed man. He remained with his father until he was twenty-two years old, sharing his labors and caring for him with filial love. After the fathers death, the young man bought out the interests of the other heirs, and thus became the sole owner of the old homestead—a place of one hundred and sity acres. He has been especially successful as a stock raiser, and prosperity has attended most of his business ventures. By tiling and fencing, the planting of fruit and shade trees and building a pleasant, modern house and keeping the barns, and keeping the barns and everything about the place in excellent repair, he has won a reputation for thrift and neatness, and at the same time has rendered his farm one of the desirable country homes of the neighborhood.

On the 27th of January, 1887, the marriage of Mr. Gregory and Miss Olive Widdifield took place at Dana, Illinois. Mrs. Gregory was a native of La Salle county, and was the only daughter of Mark and Sarah Widdifield. Wilbur, the first born child of our subject and wife, died at the age of five years. Two children are left to them, namely, Lela M. and Adrian Donald. Mark Widdifield was born in New York, and has been a well-known citizen, residing near Dana for forty years. He is now living retired at Dana. The mother was Sarah Dowdall, who was born in Peoria county, Illinois, and was a daughter of Alexander Dowdall, a pioneer.

In national affairs Mr. Gregory is a true blue Republican. Personally he never has sought or desired office, but, owing to the special interest he takes in the cause of education, he has served as a member of the district school board for fully ten years. Fraternally he is identified with the Modern Woodmen of America, his membership being with the Cornell Lodge. Mrs. Gregory is a member of the Methodist Protestant church, and both contribute liberally of their means to the support of worthy enterprises.

Mrs. J. Gregory died August 16, 1900; birthday August 31, 1820.

WILLIAM LUNING.

William Luning, who resides on section 31, Long Point township, has been a resident of Livingston county since 1871, coming to the county from Marshall county. He was born in Prussia, Germany, October 22, 1835, and is a son of Bernard and Mary Luning, both of whom were natives of Germany, where their entire lives were spent. They were the parents of eight children, all of whom are yet living in their native country save our subject.

William Luning spent his boyhood and youth in his native land and was educated in the common schools. In his youth he learned the cabinet-maker's trade, which he followed for a short time after coming to the United States. When twenty years of age he came to this country, landing at New

York city, where he spent one year working at his trade. On his arrival he knew nothing of the English language, but his youth was in his favor, and he soon acquired a knowledge of the language of the country, as well as of its methods of doing business.

In 1856 Mr. Luning concluded to try country life, and for the next three years he worked on farms near the city, commencing on six dollars per month, together with his board. Being of a frugal and saving nature, he laid by enough in that time to bring him to Illinois. Locating in Marshall county, he worked as a farm hand for the succeeding five years, and then, renting a small farm, he commenced life in earnest. As a bachelor he worked and managed his farm for two years. Realizing then the need of a "better half," he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Anthony, who was born in Wayne county, Pennsylvania, and daughter of Charles and Susan Anthony, both of whom were also natives of Pennsylvania, but who removed to Wisconsin and later to Illinois, locating in Marshall county. Her father was by occupation a farmer, and after following that calling for a time in Marshall county, he located in Wenona, Illinois, where he is now living a retired life. His wife, the mother of Mrs. Luning, died about 1862, having been the mother of six children, all of whom are living but widely scattered, Mrs. Luning being the only one living in Livingston county. Mr. Anthony later married again, and by his second union were born to him five children, of whom four are living, all making their homes in Marshall county.

After his marriage Mr. Luning continued to farm rented land in Marshall county for two years, and then moved to La Salle county, Illinois, where he purchased a farm of raw prairie land and continued farming for three years. Later he sold and purchased eighty acres of his present farm, and where he has since continued to reside. The last tract he improved by building fences, tiling the place, setting out fruit and ornamental trees, and putting it in first-class condition. Success crowned his efforts, and to the home farm he later added eighty acres, in addition to which he owns an improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in section 30, Amity township. For many years he gave his time principally to stock raising, making a specialty of hogs. He now operates a general farm and is doing well.

To Mr. and Mrs. Luning twelve children have been born, nine of whom are yet living. Two died in childhood. Hattie grew to womanhood, married Henry Drummet, by whom she had three children, Eva, Fern and Arthur. She died July 5, 1898. Those living are as follows: Melissa is now the wife of George Drummet, and they have four children, Lillie, Effie, Orpha and John. The family reside in Long Point township, where Mr. Drummet owns and operates a farm of two hundred and forty acres. Minnie is the wife of Hans Klendworth, and with their four children, Goldie, Flossie, Lee and Dewey, they reside in Long Point township, where he owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres. Dessa, Clifford and Ira are their children. Emma married Albert Miller, and they have one daughter, Leona. Their home is in Dane, La Salle county, where he is engaged in general merchandizing. Nellie is the wife of Archie Winters, and they have two children, Mournie and Birdie. They reside in Amity township, where Mr. Winters is engaged in farming. Laura is the wife of Charles

Earp, and their children are Hazel and Alta. Their home is in Amity township, where Mr. Earp has a farm of eighty acres. William C. lives at home, assisting his father in operating the home farm. Pearl and Joseph Fifer are also living at home.

In politics Mr. Luning is a Republican, and while he manifests an interest in political affairs, he would never accept any township office, although often urged to accept some position. He is a firm believer in Spiritualism. As a citizen he is highly esteemed.

RUDOLPH G. SMITH.

Rudolph G. Smith, police magistrate of Flanagan and one of the popular young business men of that place, is a native of Livingston county, born in Nebraska township, May 20, 1870, and is a son of Charles A. and Elizabeth (Hess) Smith, both natives of Germany. The father came to America in 1846, and after a brief residence in New York came to Illinois, locating in Nebraska township, Livingston county, where he has since been extensively engaged in farming. He has been prominently identified with the Democratic party in his locality, and in 1892 was its candidate for the office of sheriff of Livingston county, but owing to the permanently established political complexion of the county was defeated. He has held several township offices with credit to himself to the entire satisfaction of his constituents. His wife, who came to this country with her parents at the age of four years, died in 1899. They reared a family of eight children, namely: Anna M., now the wife of Frank Edwards, of Geneseo, Illinois; May E., wife of John Smith, of the same place; Charles P. Henry W. and George F., all residents of Nebraska township; Rudolph G., our subject; Jennie, wife of Frank Earl, and Perry L., all of Nebraska township.

On the home farm Rudolph G. Smith grew to manhood and was educated in the district school and Dixon College, Dixon, Illinois. In 1893 he located in Flanagan, where he was engaged in the mercantile business two years, and since that time has carried on operations as an insurance, real estate and collecting agent, in which he has met with well deserved success.

On the 6th of August, 1894, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Miss Hulda Mette, of Flanagan, and they now have one child, Valda Eveline, born June 9, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are both members of the Christian church, and he is also connected with the Knights of Pythias. In 1896 he was elected police magistrate of Flanagan to fill an unexpired term of three years, and so acceptably did he fill the office that in 1899 he was re-elected for a full term of four years. The Democratic party finds in him a stanch supporter of its principles, and he is usually an active member of its conventions. In 1900 he was an alternate delegate to the national convention at Kansas City, where William J. Bryan was nominated for president.

THOMAS H. THOMSON.

Thomas H. Thomson is one of the honored pioneers of Illinois, and within his recollection remarkable changes have been wrought on these western prairies. Where herds of deer and other wild game wandered when he first saw this region, flourishing

towns and villages have sprung up, railroads have been constructed, and fertile, productive farms have been developed. In this grand work of civilization he has borne no unimportant part, and no one, therefore, is better entitled to a place on the roll of honor of his state and county.

When it is considered that Mr. Thomson commenced his career in America without any financial means and has made his competence by the hardest labor and indefatigable energy, his example is one which should be followed by the younger generation, most of whom possess advantages which were not his portion. His father, Thomas T. Iverson, was born in Norway, in 1777, and passed his entire life in his native land. His wife bore the maiden name of Malinda Thomson, and their three sons were: Iver H. Thomson, now a resident of La Salle county, Illinois; Thomas H., of this sketch, and Richard H., of Humboldt county, Iowa.

The birth of T. H. Thomson occurred upon his father's farm, near Stavanger, Norway, May 3, 1826. He early learned the various duties pertaining to a farm, but had no educational advantages in his boyhood. Coming to the conclusion that America was the "land of promise," he made his plans accordingly, and, bidding farewell to his relatives and friends, sailed from the seaport of Stavanger, May 17, 1849. The voyage consumed about six weeks, and thence he went to Buffalo, and by way of the great lakes to Chicago. Going direct to Ottawa, Illinois, where two of his acquaintances were residents, he soon obtained a position with a farmer, receiving seven dollars a month, in addition to his board. For two years he industriously worked and economized, later investing his little capital in an ox-team, with which he commenced the arduous task of breaking prairie. After spending several seasons at that business, he bought forty acres of land in La Salle county, and for ten years toiled bravely, improving the place, which he finally sold at a fair price. This was in 1865, since which year he has been numbered among the citizens of Livingston county, for he then purchased one hundred acres of land in section 4, Rooks Creek township, and has since looked upon this as his permanent home. Twenty acres of this property was covered with timber, and about the same amount had been broken for cultivation. This prepared ground and a little cabin, constitutted the sum total of improvements, but the years which have since rolled by have seen great changes, and today the farm is a monument to the skill and ambition of the owner. After reducing the land to cultivation, and when he had built a substantial house and barn and fences, he realized good returns from each year's work, and, from time to time invested the proceeds in more land. To-day he owns three farms in this county, aggregating six hundred and twenty-five acres, and in addition to these, he has a good homestead of two hundred and forty acres, situated in Hardin county, Iowa.

The marriage of Mr. Thomson and Isabelle Johnson, likewise a native of Norway, was celebrated in La Salle county forty-five years ago. Of the ten children who blessed their union two have been called to the better land, Eveta M. dying when young, and Maria passing away in 1884. The sons, six in number, are successful and upright citizens, all engaged in agriculture. Thomas M., Ole A., T. E., E. J. and A. S. are residents of this county, while M. J., the second son, is a farmer of Clay county,

Minnesota. Anna M. is the wife of E. P. Friest, of Hardin county, Iowa, and Christina S. is the wife of J. C. Munson, of Amity township, Livingston county. The two younger sons are at home, aiding in the work of the farm.

Since he received the right of franchise Mr. Thompson has been a loyal friend to the Republican party. He has been averse to holding public office, personally, but has not neglected any of his duties as a citizen, and has evinced his interest in the cause of education in material ways. With his estimable wife, who was reared in Norway, he has been a member of the Lutheran church since youth.

JOSEPH M. BRADLEY.

Joseph M. Bradley, residing in a comfortable, modern farm house, beautifully situated on an eminence of the western bank of the Vermilion river, is one of the honored pioneers of Livingston county, and, as such, deserves a prominent place in the chronicles of her development.

The family of which Mr. Bradley is a sterling representative has been noted for the spirit of enterprise and venturesomeness which has ever animated the explorer and pioneer—the van of civilization. His grandfather, Esquire Bradley, as he was called, owing to the high offices held by him in his rural community, was one of the earliest settlers in Brown county, Ohio. In that wilderness our subject's father, James, was born in 1808. When twenty years of age the ambitious young man determined to further explore the then far west, and thus, in 1828, he became a resident of Illinois. Later he went to McLean county, and there married Nancy Bartholomew, whose father, General Joseph Bartholomew, was a hero of the Revolutionary war. He also had been noted as an Indian fighter, and many a time had participated in the early warfare with the redskins. One of the very first to locate in McLean county, he built a fort near the present town of Clarksville, and was well known, far and wide. After living in McLean and Hancock counties for a few years subsequent to his marriage, James Bradley took up his permanent residence in Livingston county, and improved a farm in Amity township. His death took place at his old home here in 1862. His widow, who attained the ripe age of eighty-five years, passed her last years at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Coe, in Pontiac, Illinois, her death occurring in January, 1899.

Joseph M. Bradley was born at Clarksville, Illinois, September 28, 1840, and though, in his boyhood he had few advantages, in an educational way, he early mastered the elementary and essential branches of knowledge. He is practically a self-made and self-educated man, for he has been dependent upon his own resources since he was a mere youth. For several years he rented farms and in 1874 he had acquired sufficient capital to purchase land of his own. Though the homestead where he dwells today has been in his possession for twenty-six years, he did not take up his residence here until 1885. In the meantime he continued making improvements upon the place, which, by long years of well applied industry and investments, he succeeded in bringing to its present high state of excellence. He cleared away much of the timber with which the land was encumbered, planted fruit trees and constructed fences and farm buildings. Success has attended his efforts

as an agriculturist and stock-raiser, and most of his financial ventures have prospered.

During his entire mature life Mr. Bradley has had the welfare of the people deeply at heart, and in his own community has borne his share of the duties devolving upon him as a patriotic citizen. Since the time when he cast his first presidential vote, in 1864, he has been a stanch supporter of the Republican party. When just arrived at his majority he was elected to the office of constable, and later he was honored with the position of highway commissioner, in which capacity he served efficiently for nine years. He also held the post of township collector for one term, and was clerk of the township five consecutive terms. During the past three years he has been a justice of the peace, and frequently he has been sent as a delegate to different conventions of a political nature. Few of our citizens have been more influential in promoting the cause of education than he, and to his earnest efforts must be attributed much of the prosperty of the "little red school houses" of this locality.

In 1878 Mr. Bradley married Florence, daughter of Samuel and Julia A. Patterson, and sister of S. H. Patterson, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Bradley was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and came to Illinois in childhood. She was reared in La Salle county, and received a good education in the schools of Ottawa. Mabel E., eldest child of our subject and wife, and now one of the successful teachers of this county, pursued her higher studies in the Pontiac high school and in Dixon (Illinois) College. Samuel M. is employed in a mercantile establishment at Pontiac, and Daisy M., Julia and Joseph Ross are still living at home with their parents, who are giving them good advantages.

HON. JAMES A. SMITH.

Hon. James A. Smith, of Chatsworth, has been closely identified with the history and growth of Livingston county for a third of a century. Like many of our prominent citizens he is a native of Ohio, born in Vermillion, August 6, 1845. His father, Aaron B. Smith, was a native of New Jersey, and a lawyer by profession. He came to Illinois in 1846, and located in Ottawa, where he engaged in the practice of his profession with fine success. He is distinguished in a historical way as having drawn up the first bill introduced in the legislature of this state for the establishment of a free school, that of a school in his adopted city of Ottawa.

During his boyhood days James A. Smith attended the public schools of Ottawa and read law in the office of his father until he was seventeen years old. He then accepted a position as bookkeeper and cashier for a prominent firm in that city, which position he held until 1867, when he came to Chatsworth and engaged in the grain business. He continued in that business for money on real estate. In 1880 he purchased the Chatsworth Plaindealer and has since been engaged in its publication, making it one of the most substantial and newsy papers in Central Illinois. This business he has carried on in connection with other private interests that has required much of his time and attention.

Mr. Smith has held a number of important public positions, chief among which has been the Democratic representative from the Eighteenth district, of which Livingston county forms a part, for three terms, serving in the thirty-sixth, thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth general assembly. His record there is a most commendable one. He at

once took a prominent part in the councils of his party and was placed on various important committees. In the thirty-sixth general assembly he was on the educational committee which codified the school laws of the state. In the thirty-seventh assembly he was chairman of the committee on municipal corporations, and in the thirty-eighth assembly he was chairman of the committee on congressinal apprtionment, and his committee framed the congressional apportionment bill which is the law at the present time. During his three terms he was on the steering committee of his party, and in the last two terms he was the disciplinarian of this committee. He was one of the one hundred and one members of the legislature that voted for General Palmer in his memorable contest for the United States senate in 1891. His associates had in him the utmost confidence and he was regarded by them as a worthy leader.

Mr. Smith was president of the village board of Chatsworth for thirteen years, eleven of which were consecutive. When he was first elected president of the board the village was heavily in debt, but during his administration not only were substantial improvements made, but the debt was entirely wiped out and money left in the treasury. During his term of office, and through his efforts, a good system of water works was installed and paid for, electric lights were secured for the village, and four miles of brick walk were laid. His last term expired in 1895, and the village owes him a debt of gratitude which will be hard to repay.

For twenty-two consecutive years Mr. Smith was a member and secretary of the Chatsworth school board, and during all that time he was the guiding spirit of the board. Few men not actually engaged in school work have been more closely in touch with the public schools, and he has ever had the interests of the schools at heart, and was willing to give of his time to make them more efficient.

As a delegate to county conventions for twenty-five years, and as a delegate to congressional and state conventions, and to the national Democratic convention at St. Louis in 1888, he has done valiant service for the success of his party, but like many other patriotic Democrats, he was not in sympathy with the views expressed in the platform adopted by the Democratic national convention which assembled in Chicago in 1896. He is a Democrat from principle and not for the spoils of office.

Mr. Smith is one of the largest real estate owners in central Illinois, and has large property interests in the village which has been his home for thirty-three years. He is the owner of several fine buildings in the village, including the one occupied by Bushway & Co., of which he is the company. He and his family enjoy the confidence and esteem of a large circle of friends, and judging from the record of his life he is worthy of all the honors bestowed upon him.

ISAAC Q. TANQUARY.

Isaac Q. Tanquary, deceased, was identified with the agricultural interests of Livingston county for twenty years, and was accounted one of the most highly respected citizens of Fayette township, his home being on section 8. A native of Ohio, he was born in Pickaway county, in 1815, and his early life was passed at his birthplace, where he received a common school education. In

1840 he came to Illinois and first located in Marshall county, where he engaged in farming upon rented land for a number of years. In 1875 he moved with his family to Livingston county and purchased a farm on section 8, Fayette township, consisting of one hundred and sixty acres of land, which he broke and placed under a high state of cultivation. He erected thereon a good, substantial farm house, a barn and other buildings, and soon made the farm one of the best in that section of the county.

In Marshall county Mr. Tanquary was married, in 1842, to Miss Mary Jane Watkins, a native of Athens county, Ohio, and a daughter of Isaiah and Mary (Douglass) Watkins. The father was born in Wales, and when a young man came to the United States, locating in Athens county, Ohio. He died in 1830 at the age of forty years, his wife in Marshall county, Illinois, in 1865, at the age of seventy years. To Mr. and Mrs. Tanquary were born the following children: (1) Angeline married Ethan Drake, of Marshall county, and died in Kansas, where they moved in 1873, leaving seven children, Robert, Alvin, Joseph, George, Lyman, Carrie and Nellie. (2) Caroline died in Fayette township, Livingston county, in 1878. (3) Nancy is the wife of John Bussard, village marshal of Strawn, and they had six children: Charles, Angeline, Ida, Henry and Grover, all living; and Pearl, deceased. (4) Lucinda married J. S. Marshall, a carpenter of Strawn, and died in that place at the age of twenty-seven years, leaving three children: Le Roy, Grace and Lilly. (5) Elizabeth is the wife of Lewis Nighsonger, a farmer of Marshall county, and their children are: Lulie, Lillie, Solomon, Bayard, William, David, Elvirah, Edith, Evangel, Alta and Ray. Of these Lulie and Bayard are deceased. (6) David died in Fayette township, Livingston county, in 1879, at the age of twenty-seven years. (7) William J., born in Marshall county, December 23, 1857, was educated in the common schools of that county, and resides on the home farm with his mother. He is an industrious, energetic man, independent in politics, who votes for the man who in his judgment is best qualified to fill the office. (8) Jahial died in infancy.

Mr. Tanquary was a self-made man, whose success in life was due to his industry, perseverance and good management, and at his death he left his family in comfortable circumstances. His widow still resides on the farm on section 8, Fayette townshrip. He died there September 18, 1895, honored and respected by all who knew him. Politically he was identified with the Republican party, but never took a very active part in politics, caring nothing for official honors, although he was a public-spirited man and an advocate of all measures that tended toward the improvement and advancement of the community in which he lived. He was a devout member of the Methodist church, and his life was ever in harmony with his professions.

NEWELL P. GEORGE.

Newell P. George, one of the most successful and enterprising farmers of Broughton township, Livingston county, whose home is on section 1, was born in Sunapee, New Hampshire, July 23, 1832, and is a son of Worthen and Rachel (Emerson) George, both of whom belonged to old New England families and traced their ancestry back to Scotland. For generations the George fam-

ily have flourished in New Hampshire, and at one election twenty-three votes were cast by those bearing the name in one town. Elijah George, our subject's paternal grandfather, was a soldier in the war of 1812. The father followed farming throughout life and died in 1881. The mother had died when our subject was only ten years old. They were consistent and faithful members of the Baptist church, and the father was a Democrat in politics. Of the six children born to them one daughter died in infancy. The others are Clifton and James, both residents of Newport, New Hampshire; Mary, wife of Rufus Baker; Abbie, widow of Oliver Buell, who was a resident of Princeton, Illinois, for many years, where she now resides; and Newell P.

Our subject obtained a good high school education in his native state, and commenced teaching school at the age of twenty-one, making his home with his father up to this time. Later he worked for a Mr. Buell in the mercantile business for five years and has profited much by that experience. While thus employed he was married, in 1855, to Miss Thucy A. Weeks, who was born in Vermont, in 1837, but was living with her parents in Massachusetts at the time of her marriage. By this union six children were born, of whom Charles H. died in 1892, at the age of thirty-five years, leaving a wife and two sons, Newell J. and Frank. Those living are as follows: (1) Eugene H., a farmer of Broughton township, Livingston county, is married and has three children; Oliver and Olive, twins, and Harry. (2) Frank S., who lives on the old Clapp farm in Broughton township, is married and has three children, Cora, Mabel and Hazell. (3) Bert is engaged in farming east of Emington. (4) Dell is married and also lives in Broughton township. (5) Edward is married and lives on the old home place. The sons have received good common school educations and are now prosperous farmers and men of good habits.

On first coming to Illinois, Mr. George settled in Kendall county, where he rented land and successfully engaged in farming until 1869, when he removed to Livingston county and purchased forty acres of partially improved land in Broughton township. Here he steadily prospered and at one time owned two hundred and forty acres of land and still retains one hundred and sixty acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation and improved by the erection of good and substantial buildings, including a comfortable modern residence. He taught school for two years after coming to this state, but has principally engaged in general farming and stock raising. Although he came to Illinois a poor man, he has by hard work and good management become quite well-to-do, and is now assessed higher than any other man in the township.

Politically Mr. George is an ardent Democrat and has most creditably and acceptably filled the offices of road commissioner twelve years and school director twenty-five years in his district, having always taken an active interest in maintaining good schools. His support is always given any enterprise which he believes calculated to advance the moral, intellectual and material welfare of his adopted county, and both he and his wife are widely and favorably known.

ALFRED ERICKSON.

Livingston county has no truer patriot or more industrious, upright citizen than he of whom the following sketch is penned.

His course in life has been pursued in a straightforward manner, eminently worthy of commendation, and the young man of this period can find no example better fitted for his emulation and inspiration.

One of the five children of Erick and Anna M. Nelson, the birth of our subject took place near Stockholm, Sweden, September 1, 1835. He grew to manhood on a farm and received fair educational advantages, and, as the years passed, he became more and more determined to seek his fortune in the United States. In 1860 he took passage in a sailing vessel, bound for New York city, and for seven weeks and four days was tossed to and fro upon the broad Atlantic, one severe storm lasting four days, when all of the ship's sails were furled and she seemed entirely at the mercy of the waves. From New York, Mr. Erickson proceeded to Galesburg, where some of his friends were then residing, and ere long he obtained a position on a farm, and during the ensuing year acquired a fair knowledge of the language and custom of this country.

That the young man had indeed become a devoted son of the land of his adoption was proved when, in August, 1861, he volunteered his services in the defense of the Union, and from that day to this he has faithfully performed every duty devolving upon him as a citizen. As a private of Company C, Forty-second Illinois Infantry, he served in the army of the Cumberland, and participated in the battles of Island No. 10, Corinth and Murfreesboro. At the last named place he received a flesh wound in the left leg, and was sent to the local hospital, and later transferred to one at Nashville, thence to Louisville and Chicago. When he had sufficiently recovered he was assigned to the veteran reserve corps, and thus filled out the term of his enlistment, which expired in September, 1864, when he was honorably discharged at Chicago.

Returning to Knox county, Mr. Erickson worked in a factory until he had entirely regained his health, and then he went to Montana, where he engaged in freighting for some time. The ensuing year he turned his attention again to agriculture, and in the spring of 1867 bought an eighty-acre tract of land in Livingston county. Only fifteen acres had been broken and a small cabin constituted the chief improvement on the place. At the end of a few years he had reduced the entire farm to cultivation, and by means of fences, ditches and tiling made a model homestead. Buying another tract of forty acres, in section 4, Rooks Creek township, and later one hundred and twenty acres more, he thus increased the home farm to two hundred and forty acres. Subsequently, when a favorable opportunity offered, he purchased another quarter-section of land, and now has a farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Amity township. By strict attention to business, economy and judicious investments, he gradually amassed a snug fortune, and few in this community who commenced making their own way in the world without means have been more successful.

From the time of his settlement here, Mr. Erickson has used his influence in behalf of good roads, schools and churches and everything of lasting benefit to the county and state. Since 1864, when he cast his first presidential ballot for Lincoln, he has been a loyal adherent of the Republican party. With the exception of a period when he acted in the capacity of a school director, he has never held public office, as he prefers to keep to the quiet walks of life,

and finds his time well occupied in looking after his varied business interests. With his estimable wife, he holds membership in the Lutheran church, and is a liberal contributor to religious and benevolent organizations.

In 1871, Mr. Erickson and Helen Evenson were united in wedlock in this county. She is a native of Norway and was a child of five years when she accompanied her parents to the United States. They located in Amity township, this county, and there the parents dwelt until they were claimed by death. Five children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Erickson, but only one of the number survives, Caroline, wife of Charles Carlson, who is engaged in carrying on a portion of our subject's home farm. They are the parents of three children: Alfred, Emery and Florence. Emily, who wedded Frank Carlson, died and left two little ones to mourn her loss, namely: Arthur and Clara. The angel of death indeed left our subject and wife desolate, when, within two short weeks, three of their dear ones were victims of diphtheria. Ida was in her tenth year; Edward, the only son, was a promising little fellow five years old, and Tilda was only two years old. The many sincere friends of the family truly share their sorrow, and in many ways have manifested a deep esteem in which they hold these worthy pioneers.

THEODORE McCORMICK.

This well-known and popular citizen of Odell township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, October 26, 1837, and is a son of Seth and Mary (Hill) McCormick, also natives of that state and representatives of one of the oldest families. When a young man the father learned the trade of a wagonmaker, which he followed during his residence in Pennsylvania, but on first coming to Illinois in 1857, he turned his attention to agricultural pursuits, operating a rented farm in Stephenson county three years. He then came to Livingston county and purchased a tract of unimproved land in Odell township, which he converted into a good farm supplied with all necessary improvements for successful farming. Later he rented his place and purchased a home in Odell, where he also opened a wagon shop and worked at his trade. He died there January 8, 1882, at the age of sixty-five years, and his wife,, who was always strong and healthy, died at the home of her youngest daughter, in Nebraska, in 1892, at the age of seventy-three. Both were earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and in politics the father was a Republican for many years but later joined the Democratic party. To this worthy couple were born eleven children, of whom three died in childhood. The others are as follows: Theodore, our subject, is the only one now residing in Livingston county; John is a stock raiser of Stafford county, Kansas; Henrietta is the wife of Orville Inman, of Benton county, Iowa; Oliver was a member of an Illinois regiment in the Civil war and died of disease at Chattanooga; Margaret is the wife of David M. Brown, of St. Louis; Robert is a farmer and stock raiser of Gage county, Nebraska; Nancy is the wife of Frank Lee, a city official of Beatrice, Nebraska; and Daniel P. is a mechanic living in Colorado. The two youngest were born in Illinois, the others in Pennsylvania.

Theodore McCormick was educated in

the district schools of his native state, and commenced work as a laborer. In 1856 he came to Illinois, and while at Freeport cast his first vote for Buchanan. After working as a farm hand for one year, he was joined by his father and the other members of the family, and they worked together three years in Stephenson county before coming to Livingston county. Here our subject remained with his father one year, and then commenced farming for himself upon rented land.

On the 19th of December, 1861, Mr. McCormick married Miss Martha J. Snyder, who was born in Pennsylvania, November 16, 1842, and died September 30, 1899. Her parents, Daniel and Mary (Williams) Snyder, were also natives of Pennsylvania, where the mother died when Martha was young. The father afterward married again, and by the second union had one son, Frank P., an attorney of Chicago. His last days were spent in Mendota, Illinois. By the first marriage there were four children: Albert, a resident of Mendota; Martha J., deceased wife of our subject; Kate, widow of Isaac Eckert and a resident of Mendota; Julietta, wife of Henry Bockoven, of Clark county, South Dakota. To Mr. and Mrs. McCormick were born four children, namely: Seth, born January 4, 1863, is a farmer of Pontiac. He married Louisa Drake, and has two children, Mattie and Elmer. (2) Nettie, born August 16, 1865, is the wife of J. W. Ferguson, of Topeka, Kansas, and they have two children, Irma and Harry. (3) Albert, born September 30, 1871, lives at home and manages the farm. (4) Mattie, born March 24, 1876, is keeping house for her father.

Mr. McCormick engaged in farming upon rented land until 1868, when he purchased eighty acres of partially improved land in Odell township, which he operated three years, and then had charge of his father's farm for the same length of time. At the end of that time he purchased another eighty-acre tract in the northern part of the township, and, meeting with success here, he subsequently bought one hundred and sixty acres on section 25, where he now resides, having sold his two eighty-acre tracts. In earlier days he handled stock quite extensively, but now gives his entire time and attention to general farming. Although he has met with many reverses, through sickness, bank failures and hog cholera, he has steadily prospered, overcoming all the obstacles in the path to success, and is today one of the substantial citizens of his community. He has made all the improvements upon his father's farm, including the erection of a beautiful home in 1893, at a cost of about two thousand dollars. His land is thoroughly tiled and under a high state of cultivation.

In the death of his wife Mr. McCormick lost a devoted companion and faithful helpmeet. She was a most estimable lady, well liked by all who knew her, and always took an active interest in everything which would advanced the welfare of her family. She was never ill, but passed quietly away eight minutes after suffering a stroke of paralysis. She and her husband traveled quite extensively over the east and west, and spent many pleasant days in this way.

Mr. McCormick has always affiliated with the Democratic party, has efficiently served as road commissioner for twelve years, being again re-elected in 1900, and has also filled the office of school director. Fraternally he is a member of the Mutual Aid of Odell.

WHAT IS LIFE?

Life is a narrow vale between the new
and the old,
A narrow path between two mountains
bold,
In vain we try to look beyond those
peaks so high.
Still we see nothing but the varied blue
in the sky:
Tho' we weep aloud with anguish
and care,
Our voice is lost on the empty air.
And the only answer we receive as
the years roll by,
Is the resounding echo of our wailing
cry:
But love and hope see a star, and list-
ening can hear
The rustle of angel's wings as their
shadowy forms draw near.
We are humble mortals born of hopes
and fears,
And our path through life is strewn
with smiles and tears.
Of all there is in life of sad griefs and
joys bright,
There is not much between the happy
morn of birth and death's sad night.
We march on through life ever veiled
in mystery and dread,
For there comes no answer from the
voiceless lips of the dead.
Tho' the stars may look down upon us
with compassion and love,
From their far away places in the blue
heavens above,
Tho' learned in art and science as
taught here below,
We can never tell in what channels
our lives will flow.
Tho' we cry aloud in our vain efforts
the future to learn,
No answer will ever—no never—return;
Tho' the heavens for information we
eagerly scan,
We never can tell the true destiny of
man.

—REVILO.

FRANKLIN OLIVER.

Franklin Oliver, deceased, was numbered among the pioneer settlers of Livingston county, locating in what is now known as Oliver's Grove, about five miles south of Chatsworth. He was born in Bordentown, New Jersey, April 8, 1786, and by profession was a civil engineer and surveyor, and was following that occupation at the breaking out of the war of 1812. He enlisted in the service almost as soon as war was proclaimed and served through it with distinction. He was at one time employed as general manager for Joseph Bonaparte, ex-king of Spain, a brother of the great Napoleon the First. He was married three times, his first wife being Hannah L. Ruckle, a native of New Jersey, whom he married in 1819. She bore him five children, as follows: Edward R., who served as a private soldier in the Mexican war, and was also a captain in the Confederate service during the civil war. He now resides in Corpus Christi, Texas, where he owns Montreal ranch, consisting of twenty thousand acres, and is one of the wealthy men of that region; Elias B., who is a surveyor residing near Topeka, Kansas; Helen and Franklin C., who are both deceased, and James, who is a civil engineer, and is engaged in engineering and mining at Ophir, California.

In 1833 Franklin Oliver came with his family to Livingston county, Illinois, settling, as already stated, in Oliver's Grove, which continued to be his home until his death. He was one of the first county surveyors of Livingston county, and selected and surveyed all the swamp land in the county. He also became the owner of four thousand acres of choice land in Livingston and adjoining counties, but never actively

REVILO OLIVER.

MISS GERTIE ROSS.

The Author's Little Niece.

engaged in farming, the land being only used for pasturing during his lifetime.

John Oliver, the father of Franklin Oliver, was born and educated in Dublin, Ireland. He emigrated to this country sometime prior to the Revolutionary war, in which he served as quartermaster-general. He was a warm friend of Benjamin Franklin, who at one time gave him a portrait of himself, being one of only three that were ever made. It was painted by Francis Hopkins, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. The family yet have that portrait in their possession, and it goes without question to say that it is highly prized. John Oliver was the pioneer of the Oliver family who settled in Bordentown, New Jersey.

For his second wife Franklin Oliver married Sarah Wert, in 1846, who was born in Illinois, and by this union there was one daughter, Caroline, now the wife of Theodore Dorr, residing in Livingston county. For his third wife he married Amaretta Smith, in 1850, who was born in Oswego county, New York, March 6, 1833. Her father, Luther L. Smith, was born in Westminster, Vermont, and married Amaretta Fellows, who was a daughter of Captain Fellows, of war fame. His father, Luther Smith, was also born in Vermont, where he married Love Leavitt, of Vermont, whose mother was Love Howard, and whose grandparents achieved fame by coming over in the Mayflower.

Luther L. Smith came to Livingston county when Mrs. Oliver was a small child. He settled on what is known as Smith's Mound, north of Pontiac, and which is the highest elevation in the county. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. Oliver, Captain Fellows, who served in the Revolutionary war, went into the service as a teamster when very young, and was promoted to a captaincy during the war. His father was Colonel Fellows, who held that title during the Revolutionary war. Captain Fellows married Miss Anna Grant, of Old Hartford, Connecticut, relative of General Grant. Adelia Smith, a sister of Mrs. Oliver, was the first lady teacher in Pontiac, teaching school in the old court house. She was a very talented lady, and the belle of Livingston county. She is now the wife of Horace Scripture, of Oswego, New York. Adaline Smith, who died young, was also a school teacher and a minister in the Methodist church. She was a fine public speaker. Jerome B. Smith lives on the old homestead on Smith's Mound, where he owns about six hundred acres of well improved land. Solomon J. Smith is now living retired near Chicago. Niles was a soldier in the civil war, and served until the end. He later went to Oklahoma where he died in 1895.

To Franklin and Amaretta Oliver were born three children: Revilo, John L. and Florence. Revilo, ex-mayor of Chatsworth, the famous song composer, author of "Soldiers of the Maine," the great Spanish-American war song; "The Hero of Manila," the famous Dewey song; "Nineteen Hundred Years Ago," a Christmas song and chorus relating to the Savior of the world; "The Volunteers," a war song and chorus, representing the largest army in the world, and other beautiful songs and poems. He has the distinction of being both an author and inventor, a characteristic seldom found in one person. He inherits his Christian and poetic nature from his mother, who is a noble, Christian woman, and a great financier. His family consists of his mother and his little niece, Miss Gertie Ross, whose

photograph appears in this work. She is a bright little girl of considerable oratorical ability, to whom the poet is very much attached. He also has the distinction of being the first and only person in the world who bears the name of Revilo, which is considered by many to be the sweetest and prettiest name known to the English language, being a new name originating with his father, from whom he inherits his mechanical ingenuity. One thing that makes him locally famous is the peculiarity of his name. Revilo, when read backwards spells Oliver, and Oliver when read backwards spells Revilo. He is a natural orator and a good judge of law and equity, and, like most all poets, he is endowed with a genial, kind-hearted and sympathetic nature, but when thoroughly aroused by injustice he is unyielding and of a warlike disposition. He is styled Revilo, the Christian poet, because there is something about his compositions that reminds one of the other world. His songs and poems are sad, but beautiful. They have a sublimity of thought and a tenderness of feeling that touches the heart of everyone.

John L., who is residing on part of the home farm, is a successful agriculturist and raiser of blooded stock, is married, and has five children—Ralph, Daisy, Arthur, Orvile and Oma. Florence is the wife of Thomas Ross, and they now reside in Lake Village, Indiana. He is a farmer, and also a horse trainer and track driver. They have four children—Gertie, Charles, Joseph R. and Murrell D. The first named makes her home with her uncle, Revilo and her grandmother Oliver, and is a bright and talented young elocutionist.

Ann Oliver, a sister of Franklin Oliver, was a natural artist, and some of her work is in possession of the family at the present time. She is buried at Pontiac, where she distinguished herself during the cholera epidemic of 1848 by taking care of a number of afflicted ones, who all recovered, but she herself was taken with the dread disease and her life was thus offered a sacrifice to others.

Franklin Oliver, after a long and useful life, died September 19, 1881. His widow, Mrs. Amaretta Oliver, survives him, and now makes her home in the city of Chatsworth, where she owns a fine residence. She is also the owner of over eleven hundred acres of choice farm land in Livingston county, from which she derives a handsome income.

WILLIAM WILLARD SHEDD.

William Willard Shedd, formerly a prominent farmer of Yates township, McLean county, who is now living a retired life in Fairbury, was born in Alstead, New Hampshire, July 14, 1835 and is a son of William and Abigail (Wallace) Shedd, also natives of that state, the former born in Mason, in 1801, the latter in Greenfield, in 1810. Both belonged to old New England families, and the paternal ancestry was of French descent, the maternal of Scotch. In their family were nine children, namely: Mary E., now the widow of John G. Graves and a resident of Evanston, Illinois; Silas L., a resident of Corvallis, Oregon; William W., our subject; Herman, who served as a private in the Civil war and was killed at the battle of Fair Oaks, in 1862; Jonas W., a resident of Rensselaer, Indiana; Spalding S., also a resident of that place; Edwin, of Lewiston, California; John G., a member of the firm of Marshall Field & Company, of

Chicago; and one who died in infancy. The father was a prosperous farmer of New Hampshire, but after his children were all grown and had left the parental roof, he sold the old home and came to Illinois to live with them. He died at the home of his daughter in Knox county, Illinois, in December, 1875; and his wife died at the home of our subject in Fairbury, in December, 1894. Both were faithful members of the Congregational church and active workers in the same.

Our subject received his education in the common schools of his native state and aided in the work of the home farm until eighteen years of age, when he found employment as a clerk in a general store for two years. He was then appointed as an attendant in the asylum for insane at Taunton, Massachusetts, a position he held one year. Deciding to go to the far west, on the 12th of April, 1860, in company with W. W. Kiger and family, John Hardenburg and William Phillips, he started to cross the plains with ox teams. They crossed the Mississippi river at Oquawka and the Missouri at Council Bluffs. At that time there was not a house standing on the present site of Omaha. They continued their slow journey to Salt Lake and Honey Lake Valley, and arrived in Oregon September 1, taking five months to complete their trip. They met many Indians on the plains, but they were nearly all friendly, doing considerable trading with the emigrant trains that were continuously crossing to the gold regions. Mr. Shedd remained in Oregon some time and found employment at good wages. In the spring of 1863 he conducted a second pack train into the wilds of Idaho, and spent six years in the west, mostly in California and Oregon.

In 1866 he came to Illinois and purchased eighty acres of land in Yates township, McLean county, which at that time was wild prairie and swamp land, but by industry and perseverance he soon placed it under cultivation. After erecting thereon a rude house, he returned to his boyhod home in 1867 for a wife, and was there united in marriage with Miss Rhoda M. Graves. He brought his bride to his newly acquired home in Illinois, and for many years successfully followed general farming and stock raising in McLean county. He added another one-hundred-and-sixty-acre tract to his possessions, and built a pleasant residence. By good management and hard work he placed the land under cultivation and made many improvements thereon. He sold eighty acres at a good profit, but still retains one hundred and sixty acres, which he now rents while living retired in Fairbury, enjoying a well-earned rest. Mr. and Mrs. Shedd are the parents of three children, namely: Herman, who is successfully engaged in farming on the old homestead, is married and has two children, Mary R. and Florence M.; John W. is a leading dentist of Chicago; and Dora G. is at home.

Politically Mr. Shedd has always been identified with the Republican party, and has held office almost continuously since attaining his majority, being one of the leading and influential citizens of his community. He served as assessor for twelve consecutive years, supervisor two terms, and township school trustee twenty years, having always taken a firm stand for good schools. He has served his fellow citizens most faithfully and to the best of his ability. Reaching the age when he felt farm work too arduous, he purchased a lot in Fairbury in 1894 and erected a modern residence, fitted with all conveniences obtainable and there he is liv-

ing a quiet, retired life with his wife and daughter. He has been elected justice of the peace and is now filling that office. He is a man of jovial disposition, who makes many friends and is held in high regard by all with whom he comes in contact either in business or social life.

W. H. BARICKMAN.

W. H. Barickman, a prominent musician and a successful farmer, residing on section 30, Newtown township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born upon his present farm, May 11, 1865, a son of Benjamin and Mary Augusta Barickman, represented elsewhere in this volume. He began his education in the district schools of Reading township, the same county, and later attended college at Dixon, Illinois, where he gave special attention to the study of music. Since his return home in 1889 he has had charge of the farm, and now successfully operates two hundred and seventy-five acres of land in Newtown township. He also owns one hundred and three acres on section 19, the same township, which he rents.

On the 10th of July, 1889, Mr. Barickman was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Semans, a native of Livingston county, and a daughter of Henry and Rebecca Semans, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. By this union have been born five children, namely: Earl Wade, Ray W., Winifred, Charles Max and Edwin K.

In his social relations Mr. Barickman is a charter member of Ancona Camp, No. 1835, M. W. A.; in politics is identified with the Republican party. For the past seven years he has served as school director in district number ten, and takes an active interest in all enterprises calculated to advance the moral, social and material welfare of his community. He has always been an ardent lover of music, and has devoted considerable attention to the study of that art, as he possesses much talent in that direction. He has a good voice, and is able to play on several different instruments. For the past ten years he has been a musical director, and at present is instructing two brass bands of eighteen pieces each, and an orchestra of eight pieces, principally string instruments. He also has many private scholars, and was formerly a cornet player in the Fourth Regiment Band located at Streator. He is quite popular, both in musical and social circles, and justly merits the high regard in which he is held.

AMMON DEFENBAUGH.

Ammon Defenbaugh, one of the most successful farmers and stock raisers of Reading township, Livingston county, as well as one of its most enterprising and public-spirited citizens, was born in Newtown township, that same county, May 27, 1854, and is a son of Elijah and Catherine (Defenbaugh) Defenbaugh, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume. He was only able to attend school about three months during the year, but continued his studies in the district schools, as he found opportunity, until he attained his majority. He aided his father in the work of the home farm until the latter's death in 1886, and then commenced farming on his own account. He now operates seven hundred and seventy acres of land in Reading township,

four hundred acres of which belongs to him. Having become thoroughly familiar with all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist, he met with marked success at the beginning of his career, and today is one of the most prosperous farmers of the township. He feeds annually about one hundred head of cattle and two hundred hogs, in this way using all the grain raised upon his land. As a business man he is reliable, energetic and progressive, and has the entire confidence and respect of those with whom he comes in contact.

Fraternally Mr. Defenbaugh affiliates with Ancona Camp, No. 1835, M. W. A., and politically is identified with the Democratic party. He has always taken an active interest in anything pertaining to the good of his party; for the past twenty years has been committeeman of Reading township; and for many years has been a delegate to county, congressional and state conventions. He takes a prominent and influential part in local affairs; was assessor of his township one year, and supervisor three years, during which time he was a member of several of the most important committees, including the one on jail and jail accounts. He has also served as school director and is now school trustee.

GEORGE E. BENNETT.

George E. Bennett, a highly esteemed farmer of Rooks Creek township, Livingston county, is a citizen of whom it may be truly said wherever he has resided the community has been the better and more prosperous for his presence. He has firmly stood for public improvements, schools and churches, and progress in all lines, and by voice and means has used his influence for the good and right. As he justly deserves, success has attended his industrious, well applied efforts in business, and his innumerable friends in this portion of the state rejoice in his good fortune.

In tracing the ancestral history of our subject, it is found that he is of French descent, on both sides of the family. His paternal grandfather, Colonel Green Bennett, won his title during some of the early wars of this country. He resided in Chemung county, New York, in the early part of this century, and there his son, Thomas S., father of our subject, was born and reared to manhood. He married Mary Brown, likewise a native of Chemung county, and in 1850 they removed to Kendall county, Illinois. Later the family located in Kane county, and in 1867 they removed to this county, with which their name has since been closely associated. Mr. Bennett was summoned to the silent land in 1869, and was survived a score of years by his widow, who made her home with her son George until her death, in February, 1899. This beloved couple, whose lives have much of inspiration to the younger generation, are now sleeping their last sleep in Johnson cemetery.

George E. Bennett was born on the old family estate in Chemung county, New York, November 9, 1848, and, as he was young when he was brought to Illinois, he knows no other home. Here he received a common school education, and laid the foundations for his future success by practical application to his chosen calling. When he was less than twenty years of age he came to this county and purchased eighty acres of land in section 10, Rooks Creek township—

his present homestead. True, this was a wild tract of land, and about its only improvement was a small cabin, but the young man, with true foresight, believed that a fine farm could be developed here. Within a few years he had developed the land and reaped good harvests each year. Besides this, he rented additional land, which yielded large crops annually, and later he increased the boundaries of his farm to two hundred and eight acres.

With characteristic enterprise, Mr. Bennett was the first one in this township to purchase and lay tiling, the experiment being made in 1883, when he laid thirteen hundred rods of tile, at a cost of eleven hundred dollars. This venture proving a success, as some land that otherwise had not been of much value was thereby made highly productive, he invested more capital in tiling, and his example was followed by many of his neighbors. Today a pleasant modern farm house, well built barns, a thrifty orchard and beautiful fields of grain and hay proclaim the judicious care and industry of the owner.

The marriage of Mr. Bennett and Martha E. Douglas was solemnized in this county, February 1, 1881. Her father, Reason N. Douglas, was one of the early settlers of Livingston county, coming here from Ohio. Mrs. Bennett was born in this pioneer home, and was reared to maturity here, enjoying the benefits of the common schools and completing her education in Eureka (Illinois) College, after which she engaged in teaching. Four children bless the union of our subject and wife, namely: Myron E., Mary E., Thomas R. and Mabel. Leroy, the first born, died at the age of three and one-half years.

Upon receiving the right of franchise, Mr. Bennett voted for General U. S. Grant, but of late years he has kept free from party obligations, and uses his ballot for the platform and nominee which he deems best suited for the emergency and times. For many years he served as a member of the board of education, as township clerk and trustee, and gave entire satisfaction to the people in his discharge of his duties of citizenship. Mr. and Mrs. Bennett are members of the Baptist church in Graymont, and, besides being one of the official board, he is a great worker in the Sunday school, and is president of the Sunday School Association of this township.

F. K. HACK.

F. K. Hack, a well-known citizen and leading agriculturist of Sullivan township, Livingston county, Illinois, residing on section 14, was born February 4, 1862, in that township, just two miles south of his present home, and is a son of Frederick and Martha (Knorr) Hack, natives of Bavaria, Germany. The father was born March 6, 1828, and in the spring of 1852 emigrated to the United States. From New York city he went to Pittsburg, and found employment as a farm hand in Butler county, Pennsylvania, where he remained four years. He then came to Grundy county, Illinois, and two years later to Livingston county, where he has since made his home. In 1857 he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of government land in Sullivan township, which at that time was very swampy and all wild and unimproved, but he soon transformed it into a good farm. He added to his landed possessions from time to time as his

financial resources increased until he had over six hundred acres of well improved and valuable land, some of which he sold for ninety-two dollars and a half per acre. His success in life was due entirely to his own unaided efforts for he started out empty-handed. He engaged in farming until the village of Cullom sprang into existence, when he embarked in the lumber and hardware business at that place and later he also dealt in grain. For many years he was prominently identified with public affairs, representing Sullivan township on the county board of supervisors three years, and serving as road commissioner eighteen years, school director sixteen years, and president of the village board several years. He was formerly a Republican in politics, but now votes independently, and is an active and faithful member of the Lutheran church. On the 1st of June, 1852, he married Miss Martha Knorr, who died July 4, 1898, and he is now living retired among his children in Sullivan township. In his family are the following: Elizabeth, wife of Ezra Grush, of Dwight township, Livingston county; Lena, wife of Ernest Opperman, of Sullivan township; Caroline, wife of Andrew H. Haag, supervisor of Sullivan township; Katie, who married Leonard Haag and died at the age of twenty-six years; Ezra, who is living on the old home farm in Sullivan township; and Frederick K., our subject.

During his boyhood Frederick K. Hack attended the district schools of Sullivan township, and remained under the parental roof until he attained his majority, when he commenced farming upon land rented from his father. On the 8th of October, 1884, he was united in marriage with Miss Lizzie Keck, of the same township, a daughter of Andrew and Catherine Keck, who came from Pennsylvania to Livingston county, Illinois, at an early day, and are now living retired in Cullom at the ages of seventy-six and seventy-two years, respectively. In their family of eight children Mrs. Hack is the seventh in order of birth. Our subject and his wife have five children, namely: Albert, Ernest, Willie, Roy and Gertie, all attending the home school with exception of the youngest.

In 1889 Mr. Hack purchased eighty acres of land on section 14, Sullivan township, of Edward Cook, a part of which was improved and under cultivation, and which he has since tiled and converted into an excellent farm. In 1895 he bought an adjoining eighty acres of Linden Bute, and the same year erected a barn, crib and wind-mill. He has no specialty, but is successfully engaged in general farming. For three years, from 1892 to 1895, he had charge of his father's general store in Cullom, but since then has devoted his energies to agricultural pursuits alone.

Mr. and Mrs. Hack are both active members of the Lutheran church, of Cullom, of which he has been a trustee for the past two years. On national issues he votes the Democratic ticket, but at local elections supports the men whom he believes best qualified for office regardless of party lines. In the spring of 1900 he was elected road commissioner, and is now most creditably filling that office.

ALBERT MANHSER.

The subject of this sketch, who is now successfully engaged in farming in Nebraska township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born in Germany, on the 4th of November,

1852, and is a son of Manert and Fannie (Strunk) Manhser, also natives of that country. In 1873 the family emigrated to America and on landing proceeded at once to Illinois. They first located in Mason county, where they remained two years, and then removed to Tazewell county. Shortly afterward the parents settled in Amden, Illinois, where they now reside. After a long and useful career the father is spending his declining years in the quietude of a retired life. He is now eighty years of age, while his wife is eighty-six, but they still enjoy good health. In 1897 this venerable couple celebrated their golden wedding. They are widely and favorably known and are held in the highest regard in the community in which they reside. In their family are six children, namely: John, a resident of Amden; Maggie, wife of Lambert Helman, of San Jose, Illinois; Barney, of Pekin, Illinois; Albert, our subject; Maynard, of Delavan, Illinois; and Lena, wife of Albert Weimer, of San Jose.

Albert Manhser was reared and educated in his native land, and during his youth served in the German army. At the age of twenty-one he came with the family to the United States, and worked as a farm hand in Mason and Tazewell counties until 1891, when he moved to Livingston county, and was engaged in tile-making in Flanagan for eight years. In 1899 he commenced farming upon his present place in Nebraska township, and has since devoted his energies to that occupation, meeting with good success in his labors.

In 1880 Mr. Manhser was united in marriage with Miss Kate Sleeter, also a native of Germany, and to them have been born five children: Timothy, Grace, Fannie, Jennie and Maggie. Politically Mr. Manhser affiliates with the Democratic party, and religiously is a member of the German Reformed church. Upright and honorable in all things, he commands the respect and confidence of those with whom he comes in contact, either in business or social life.

FRED REINEKE.

Fred Reineke, one of the most energetic and progressive agriculturists of Waldo township, Livingston county, was born in Germany, October 28, 1862, and is a son of Ludwig and Geshe (Theesfield) Reineke, natives of Germany, and now residents of Cissna Park, Illinois. He is the oldest of their seven children, the others being as follows: Maggie, born April 2, 1866, married John Toelstede, of Nebraska township, and she died April 30, 1892; Ulrich, born January 1, 1868, resides in Iroquois, Illinois; Henry, born January 5, 1871, lives in Indian Territory; Charles, born February 9, 1877, resides in Iroquois, Illinois; Christian, born May 10, 1879, is also a resident of Indian Territory; and John, born January 13, 1887, lives with his parents.

Our subject came to America with his parents when eleven years old, was reared on the home farm in Livingston county, and educated in the common schools of the neighborhood. Since starting out in life for himself he has devoted his time and energies to agricultural pursuits, and in his labors has met with well deserved success. That he thoroughly understands his chosen occupation is shown by the neat and thrifty appearance of his farm in Waldo township.

On the 17th of November, 1887, Mr. Reineke was united in marriage with Miss

Adelhaid Jenson, of Rooks Creek township, Livingston county, who died December 1, 1896, leaving three children, namely: Tena, born December 19, 1889; Ludwig, born September 7, 1891; and Maggie, born June 16, 1893. For his second wife Mr. Reineke married Miss Grace Sprague, an adopted daughter of Nicholas Randall Sprague, of Wood county, Ohio.

GEORGE W. BENTLEY.

George W. Bentley, who is now successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 20, Avoca township, has been a resident of Livingston county since 1866, and since reaching manhood has been actively identified with its business interests. He is a native of Illinois, born in Peoria county, December 21, 1857, and is a son of John W. and Diana M. (Myers) Bentley, the former a native of England, the latter of Pennsylvania. They are now living in Pontiac a quiet, retired life, after many years of hard work, during which they acquired a competence sufficient to keep them the remainder of their days. The father followed farming quite successfully until 1891, when he moved to the city, after selling his farm. He also owned a farm in Kansas which he disposed of a few years ago. He has always affiliated with the Republican party, and is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, as well as one of its liberal supporters. Ten children were born to John W. Bentley and wife, of whom two died in early childhood. Those living are Albert M., a farmer living near Rochelle, Ogle county, Illinois; William H., a resident of Pontiac; Roger P., a farmer of Avoca township; George W., our subject; Edward N., a prosperous farmer of Eppards Point township; John E., who lives in the northern part of Pontiac township; Gilbert H., an employe in a lumber yard at Pontiac; and Benjamin F., a farmer of Esmen township.

George W. Bentley attended the common schools of Livingston county, and remained at home with his father on the farm until 1878. In 1885 he married Miss Dora Bodley, a native of Avoca township, and a daughter of John Bodley, one of the old settlers still living in that township. She died in 1888, leaving one daughter, Daisy, who is with her father. After the death of his wife Mr. Bentley sold his stock and implements and moved to Pontiac, where he engaged in the coal business and later dealt in lumber for two years. He was identified with the representative men of Pontiac, and served as assistant postmaster of that city for three years. By good business ability he succeeded in saving some money, and in 1895 he purchased one hundred and fifty-one acres of improved land on section 20, Avoca township, paying eighty-seven and a half dollars for the same. He located upon his farm three years later, and there he has since successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has erected new outbuildings and made other improvements, and the farm now yields him good returns.

In 1893 Mr. Bentley was again married, his second union being with Miss Martha Augustine, who was born in Pennsylvania, and came to this state with her parents when quite young. In his political views Mr. Bentley is a Republican, and while a resident of Pontiac served as city treasurer two years, as well as assistant postmaster. He has always taken an active part in political affairs, and was appointed census enumer-

ator in Avoca township in 1900. He is a member of Pontiac Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., and Pontiac Lodge, No. 262, I. O. O. F., and in social as well as business circles he is highly respected and esteemed.

GEORGE W. HORTON.

George W. Horton, superintendent of the city schools of Dwight, Illinois, was born in Channahon, Will county, near Joliet, this state, June 17, 1858, a son of William H. and Charlotte (Lish) Horton, both natives of Sussex county, New Jersey, the former born in 1825, the latter in 1835. The family was founded on Long Island at an early day, and was represented in the Revolutionary war and the war of 1812. The Professor's paternal great-grandparents were Caleb (or Caleph) and Phebe (Terry) Horton, while his grandparents were Terry and Rosanna (Stine) Horton, natives of Sussex and Warren counties, New Jersey, respectively.

In the early '50s William H. Horton, our subject's father, came west, and first located in Wisconsin, but remained there only a short time before removing to Joliet, Illinois, where he engaged in wagon-making, carrying on the business quite extensively there and elsewhere until that class of manufacturing was monopolized by the large factories. In 1860 he moved his business to Lincoln, Illinois, where he conducted it until 1874, and then went to Fresno, California, at which place he continued to engage in the manufacture of wagons and carriages until 1899, when he returned to Illinois, and has since made his home with our subject in Dwight, living a retired life at the age of seventy-five years. He is a man of sterling character and strict integrity, who has won the respect of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, and whose word has always been considered as good as his bond. In political affairs he has never been an aspirant for office, though a stanch Whig and Republican. The mother of our subject died in February, 1863, when he was only four years old, leaving three children. The oldest, Henry Lish Horton, is a resident of Joliet, Will county, Illinois; and the youngest, John Curry Horton, is a resident of El Paso, Texas.

At the age of twelve years Mr. Horton began learning the painter's trade with G. M. Seick, a painter and decorator of Lincoln, Illinois. After four years' apprenticeship he removed to Joliet, Illinois, and to that business gave his attention until 1881. His preliminary education was received in the common schools, from private teachers, and from the West Chicago Commercial College, which he attended at intervals while at work. In 1881 he entered Doane College, Crete, Nebraska, from which he was graduated a bachelor of arts in 1886. After his graduation he entered the law office of Judge John K. Cravens, of Kansas City, Missouri, and devoted a year and a half to the study of law, but on account of failing health he was forced to give up study, and then turned his attention to teaching in Lyon county, Kansas. Altogether he spent five years teaching in the district and city schools of that state, his last position being as principal of the high school of Beloit, which he gave up to take the chair of languages at Salisbury Academy, Salisbury, Missouri. In September, 1895, he came to Dwight, Illinois, to accept the position of superintendent

of schools, which under his management have been greatly improved. The present high school building has also been erected during his administration and other improvements made. Dwight now has two school buildings, the other being known as the West Side school; thirteen teachers are employed and five hundred pupils enrolled. The high school curriculum comprises a complete preparatory course of four years which fits the student for entering the State University, and many of the graduates of this school are now attending various colleges and state universities, including those of Illinois and Missouri, and Brown University, of Rhode Island.

On the 31st of December, 1890, at Gaylord, Kansas, Professor Horton married Miss Cora A. Blake, who was born in Muscatine, Iowa, a daughter of Jacob and Emily (Berkshire) Blake, natives of Pennsylvania and Indiana, respectively. She is one of a family of nine children, two of whom died in infancy, the others being as follows: Ella, who resides with her mother in Sargent, Missouri; Philip, a merchant at Sargent, Missouri; Emma, a resident of Willow Springs, Missouri; Edward, an attorney of Gaylord, Kansas; Charles, a merchant at Dawson, Iowa; and Martha, a teacher in the schools of Mazon, Illinois.

In politics Mr. Horton is a Republican, supporting the men and measures which in his estimation serve the best interests of the public. Fraternally he is a Master Mason, and has filled most of the offices in his lodge. He is a leading member of the Congregational church, of Dwight, and as a teacher takes an active interest in Sunday school work. He is recognized as one of the able and progressive educators of the state, whose influence and personality are demonstrated in the high standard and satisfactory condition of the Dwight city schools at the present time.

ALEXANDER S. PIPER.

Alexander S. Piper, a well-known citizen of Amity township, is classed among the influential and successful agriculturists of Livingston county. He has been a stanch friend to education and public improvements and has loyally given his aid and voice to progress along all lines.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Samuel Piper, of Revolutionary fame, for he fought for the independence of this land, with whose destiny he had cast his own some years before. He was a native of Ireland, and prior to his emigration from the Emerald Isle he married Jane Alden. After his arrival in the new world he located in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, and conducted a large flouring mill there for several years. He owned considerable property, carried on a large farm, and was looked upon with respect as a man of means and enterprise. He died when eighty-four years old, and his wife at the age of ninety-three years. His son, John Piper, father of our subject, was born on the old home place in Cumberland county, in 1788, and when he arrived at maturity he married Maria Randolph. Four children were born to them, and after the death of the wife, Mr. Piper wedded Ann Quigler, the mother of Alexander S., of this sketch. He spent his entire life in his native county, and died at the ripe age of seventy-five years.

The birth of Alexander S. Piper occurred July 11, 1835, in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania. His youth was spent in the

labors of the farm and in the common schools, where he obtained a good education. In 1858 he came to Illinois, and in order to make a financial start he worked by the month for farmers in Woodford county. He was still industriously employed in this manner, and was about to embark in independent business for himself, when the great crisis of the past half century occurred. As soon as he was able to enlist in the defense of the Union, the young man became a member of Company I, Eleventh Illinois Infantry, and was sent to the front immediately. His first important battle was at Fort Donelson, and in the charge he was wounded in the knee and calf of his leg. Thus seriously disabled, he was necessarily sent to the hospital, and when able to travel he was given a furlough and returned home. In the following May he joined his regiment at Jackson, Tennessee, and soon afterwards took part in the battle of Holly Springs, and later in the siege of Vicksburg. When that city had surrendered his regiment was sent to Yazoo City, and there a severe fight occurred, and, later, it participated in the battle of Morganza, Louisiana. Many minor engagements and several disastrous battles were waged by the Eleventh Illinois against the Confederates, as the records of the war department show, and from first to last of the term of their enlistment these brave boys in blue won commendation and high praise from their superior officers. They were honorably discharged September 25, 1864, at Springfield, Illinois.

On the 28th of December, 1865, Mr. Piper married Delaney F. Rice, whose birth had occurred in Cazenovia, New York, and who had removed to Woodford county with her father, Elisha Rice, when she was a child. A son and two daughters were born of this union: Rebecca Ann is living in Woodford county, Illinois. Charles is living on part of the home farm. Ada is the wife of Frank Swords, who was born and reared in this county, and is now engaged in cultivating a portion of our subject's farm.

For some time after his marriage Mr. Piper was employed by a brother-in-law on his farm. In the spring of 1867 he purchased a quarter of section 31, Amity township, and ever since has made his home here. The old house and stable was supplanted by commodious, modern buildings in the course of time, a good orchard was set out and many other improvements were instituted by the energetic owner. Beginning life a poor man, he has steadily pressed forward to the goal of success which he always has had in view, and long ago prosperity crowned his efforts.

In 1856 Mr. Piper cast his first presidential vote for Fillmore, but in 1860 he voted for Lincoln, and since that time has been a stalwart supporter of the Republican party. He has been averse to holding public offices, but his interest in our schools led to his acceptance of a portion of the responsibility of acting on the local board of trustees. In religious faith he was reared as a Presbyterian, but now holds his membership with the Methodist Protestant church.

MICHAEL SOMERS.

Michael Somers, a prominent farmer, who owns and operates a valuable and well-improved farm of two hundred and eighty acres of land on section 31, Forrest township, was born in Cambria county, Pennsyl-

vania, March 21, 1846, and is a son of Peter and Mary Ann (McAteer) Somers. The father was born in county Westmeath, Ireland, June 23, 1815, and his early life was spent with his grandparents in his native land. In 1835 he emigrated to America, and on landing in this country found himself in a strange land with only half a dollar in his pocket. When he sailed he had a little money, most of which he loaned to his fellow passengers and never received again. Immediately after his arrival he set to work as a laborer to supply his daily wants. In 1836 he settled in Cambria county, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in farming until coming to Livingston county, Illinois, in March, 1867. Renting an acre and a half of land on section 20, Forrest township, he located thereon and made it his home until the latter part of the following year, when he removed to his own farm on section 32, the same township, having purchased a half-section of land on coming to the county. In the meantime he began its improvement, and soon converted the raw land into a well-improved and highly cultivated farm, tiling and draining it, and erecting thereon good and substantial buildings. He was a very progressive man, and in connection with general farming engaged in stock raising to some extent. In July, 1842, he married Mary A. McAteer, of Pennsylvania, who died in that state in August, 1859. By that union were born seven children: Michael, our subject; Peter F., a retired farmer and grain dealer of Fairbury; Mary A., wife of Joseph Mangan, a retired farmer of Galesburg, Illinois, formerly of Forrest township, Livingston county; and four who died quite young of diphtheria. The father was again married, September 18, 1860, his second union being with Elizabeth Kearns, also a native of Pennsylvania, by whom he had two children: William A., who is mentioned below; and Frank P., a resident of Kankakee, Illinois. The family hold membership in the Roman Catholic church, and the father always affiliated with the Democratic party. He died at his home in Forrest township, in February, 1892, at the age of seventy-six years, and was laid to rest in Strawn, Livingston county. He was a public-spirited citizen, and was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him.

The early education of Michael Somers was obtained in the public schools of his native state. He came to Illinois, in August, 1866, and purchased the home place for his father in Forrest township, Livingston county. He aided in its operation until twenty-seven years of age, when he bought a part of his present farm on section 31, the same township, to which he has added from time to time as his financial resources have increased until he now owns two hundred and eighty acres of land. He has built a commodious and pleasant residence, a large barn and granary, has tiled the land, and placed it under a high state of cultivation. A thorough and systematic farmer, his labors have ever been crowned with success, and he well deserves the prosperity that has come to him. By his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Democratic party, and he has efficiently served as school director twenty-eight years, during which time he has been instrumental in getting better schools and teachers. Religiously he is a member of the Roman Catholic church.

In January, 1873, at Fairbury, Illinois, Michael Somers married Bridget Campbell, who was also born in Pennsylvania, but came to Illinois with her parents when only three years old, locating in La Salle county.

Her father, Philip Campbell, a farmer by occupation, died at the age of seventy-three years. Mr. and Mrs. Somers have a family of six children, all born in Forrest township, and all still at home. They are: Mary A., born in September, 1875; Peter M., in September, 1877; Philip A., in October, 1879; Marcella, in December, 1881; Bridget, in August, 1885; and Michael, in August, 1889.

William A. Somers, a brother of Michael, was born at Wilmore, Cambria county, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1861, but was only five years old when the family came to Forrest township, Livingston county, Illinois. He remained at home until he was married, August 2, 1883, to Miss Minnie J. McCormick, a daughter of James McCormick, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. To them were born nine children, but only six are now living, namely: Frank, Lizzie, Peter, Cora, Marie and William, all born in Livingston county, and educated in its public schools. Those deceased are: William, who died in Kansas City at the age of one year; Geneva, who died in Streator, Illinois, at the age of three years; and Katherine, who died in Strawn, at the age of ten years.

After his marriage Mr. Somers continued on his father's farm until 1886, when he went to Kansas City and worked in the shops of the Missouri Pacific Railroad one year. The following two years were spent in Kangley, La Salle county, Illinois, where he was in the employ of the Star Coal Company, and from there he came to Strawn, Livingston county, where he has purchased a residence and still makes his home. As a Democrat he has taken quite an active and prominent part in public affairs, has served as marshal of the village seven years, and clerk of Fayette township four years. He and his family hold membership in the Catholic church, of Strawn, and are highly esteemed by all who know them.

WILLIAM S. BRUNSKILL.

William S. Brunskill, a prosperous and successful farmer and stock raiser on section 5, Esmen township, is one of Livingston county's native sons, for he was born in that township August 8, 1867. His father, William Brunskill, was born and reared in England, and in 1854, when a young man, emigrated to the new world and became one of the early settlers of this county. Here he married Susan Ross, who was born in Ohio of English parentage, and came to Livingston county with her parents, Moses and Elizabeth Ross, during childhood. For many years the father of our subject was actively engaged in farming in Esmen township, where he still owns a valuable farm of two hundred and forty acres, but is now living a retired life in Cayuga.

On the home farm William S. Brunskill grew to manhood, and was educated in the common schools of the neighborhood. He remained under the parental roof, assisting in the operation of the place until he attained his majority, and then bought eighty acres of his present farm, which he at once commenced to improve and cultivate. He has added to the original purchase from time to time until he now has a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres of rich and arable land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation, and has a half-interest in a large stock farm of seven hun-

dred and sixty acres in La Porte county, Indiana. His wife is also the owner of an eighty-acre tract. Since 1889 he has devoted considerable attention to buying, feeding and shipping stock, and now ships on an average of forty-five car loads of cattle and hogs annually, and has a herd of seventy steers fattening for market. He is a most progressive and energetic business man, and is meeting with marked success in his undertakings.

On the 16th of September, 1891, in Esmen township, Mr. Brunskill was united in marriage with Miss Olive Rhodes, a native of Wisconsin. Her parents, Leland M. and Caroline (Clark) Rhodes, were born, reared and married in New York, and from that state removed to Walworth county, Wisconsin, where he improved a farm, making it his home until 1878, when he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased the farm of three hundred and twenty acres on which our subject now resides. Here Mrs. Brunskill was reared and educated. She presides with gracious dignity over her home, and holds membership in the Baptist church. Politically Mr. Brunskill is an independent, and by the people he was elected and filled the office of township clerk for three years, but he has never cared for political preferment, his time being fully occupied by his extensive business interests. While independent in politics, his choice for president in 1900 is William J. Bryan.

HARRY WRY WAGENSELLER.

Harry Wry Wagenseller, one of the rising young farmers of Avoca township, Livingston county, is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Perry county, October 26, 1870, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (Rice) Wagenseller, also natives of that state, and of German descent. His ancestors settled in Pennsylvania in the early part of the nineteenth century. By trade the father of our subject was a carriage maker, but for some time was engaged in mercantile business, and after coming to Illinois, in 1871, conducted an eating house in Chenoa, McLean county, until his death, in 1873. He had four children, of whom William and John died in childhood. Juniata W., the only daughter, is now the wife of John Green, a promising young farmer living near Pontiac, and to them were born two children, but one died in infancy, and Mabel M. is living. Harry W., our subject, completes the family. After the death of her husband the mother conducted an eating house at Weston for a time. In 1876 she married Richard Stratton, a prosperous farmer of Livingston county, and they took up their residence upon his farm, but are now living in Fairbury, where Mr. Stratton purchased a comfortable home on retiring from farm life.

Our subject received the greater part of his education in the common schools of Livingston county, and also took a six months' course at Baker's Business College at Bloomington, fitting himself to carry on any vocation on business principles. In 1888 he went to Nebraska and opened the first school near North Platte, since which time a school has has been conducted in that district each year regularly. At the end of a three months' term he returned to Illinois. He lived with his mother until he attained his majority and superintended Mr. Stratton's farm, carrying on a successful business for him until 1895, when Mr. Stratton moved

to Fairbury, and Mr. Wagenseller purchased eighty acres of land on section 19, Avoca township, paying for the same ninety dollars per acre. He continues to operate Mr. Stratton's farm, consisting of a half-section of land, and his own eighty acres, and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He is not only a thorough and systematic farmer, but is a man of good business and executive ability.

In 1895 Mr. Wagenseller married Miss Fanny Goold, who was born in Illinois, in 1872, a daughter of Marvin and Jennie Goold, now residents of Eppards Point township, where the father carries on general farming. In the Goold family were eight children, of whom four died when young. Those living are Helen, Jay, Roy and Fanny. Mr. and Mrs. Wagenseller have two children: John Richard and Ruth Mae, who are the joy of the household.

Politically Mr. Wagenseller has always adhered to the principles of the Republican party, but has never sought office. He favors good schools and gives his support to all enterprises calculated to advance the moral, intellectual or social welfare of the community in which he lives. Religiously he is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Lodemia, and is now a member of the board of trustees.

C. V. ELLINGWOOD, M. D.

C. V. Ellingwood, M. D., of Chatsworth, Illinois, is a well known physician of established reputation, both in medicine and surgery, having a very extensive practice in Livingston and adjoining counties. He was born in Eastport, Washington county, Maine, October 12, 1858. His father, Captain M. A. Ellingwood, was born on Grand Menan island, an English isle off the coast of Maine, and who for many years followed the seas. When nineteen years of age he took charge of a vessel as its captain, and continued to hold that position until he left the ocean and settled down to the life of a farmer. He married Matilda Pendleton, a native of Deere island, also an English isle off the coast of Maine. They became the parents of two sons, Clarence A. and C. V. The former is a resident of Whitewater, Wisconsin. In 1870 Captain Ellingwood came with his family west and located in Whitewater, Wisconsin, and there his death occurred in 1898. His widow is yet living in that city.

The subject of this sketch spent much of his early life on the ocean with his father, and with him visited nearly all the foreign countries. He was twelve years of age when the family moved to Whitewater, Wisconsin, and in the high school and the Normal school at that place he received his literary education. Leaving school, he engaged in telegraphy, and continued in the same capacity until 1885, when he entered Bennett Medical College, Chicago, having in the meantime, as the opportunity was afforded him, read medicine. Pursuing the regular course he was graduated from that institution in March, 1887. In the following summer he came to Chatsworth for the practice of his profession, arriving here on the 9th of August, the day before the terrible wreck on the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad, in which a large number were killed and many were severely injured. For an entire week following he secured little or no sleep, his attendance, with other local physicians, being required to give relief to

the suffering. The experience and skill shown by the Doctor on that occasion has been beneficial to him in the years following. He has always kept up with the progress made in his profession, and in 1895 took a post-graduate course in the Chicago Polyclinic Hospital.

In 1883 Dr. Ellingwood was united in marriage with Miss Fannie A. Bentley, a native of Michigan, and daughter of H. J. Bentley, who settled in that state at an early day, coming west from New York, of which state he was a native. During his active life he followed farming, but he is now living retired, making his home with our subject in Chatsworth. Mrs. Ellingwood was one of two children. Hall, her brother, was drowned when but seven years of age. To our subject and wife two children have also been born. Lulu A. is now attending St. Mary's Academy, Notre Dame, Indiana, a noted seminary for young ladies. Jennie is attending the academy at Chatsworth.

Fraternally Mr. Ellingwood is a member of Chatsworth Lodge, No. 539, A. F. & A. M.; of Fairbury Chapter, No. 99, R. A. M.; St. Paul's Commandery, No. 34, of Fairbury; and of the Mystic Shrine, Peoria, and of the Peoria Consistory. In politics he is a Republican, and a firm believer in the principles of the party. He has been trustee of the village two years; a member of the board of education nine years, three years of which time serving as its president. He has served as pension examiner, and secretary of the Livingston county board of pensioners. He is now examining physician for his locality for nearly all the leading life insurance companies, including the Washington National, the Equitable, Home, Phœnix, Mutual Life of New York, New York Life, John Hancock, Iowa Life, Manhattan, American, Union, Connecticut, Mutual, Penn Mutual and Security Trust and Life. He is local surgeon for the Illinois Central Railroad, and is a member of the International Association of Railroad Surgeons. As a physician and surgeon he ranks among the best, as a citizen he is enterprising and ready at all times to assist any worthy enterprise. His friends are many throughout Livingston and adjoining counties, where he is so well known.

JOHN B. SUTTON.

John B. Sutton, the well-known postmaster at Wing, and one of the early educators of Livingston county, was born near Zanesville, Ohio, January 31, 1831. His father, Samuel Sutton, was born near Egg Harbor, New Jersey, where he grew to manhood and engaged in farming for a time, but later he was interested in the produce business in Philadelphia. From that city he moved to Ohio, locating on a farm near Zanesville. There he married Elizabeth Slack, a native of Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of John Slack, who on leaving Pennsylvania went to Loudoun county, Virginia, and later moved by wagons to Ohio, also settling near Zanesville. The Slack family is of Pennsylvania Dutch descent, while the Suttons are of English extraction. During the childhood of our subject his parents located in Adamsville, Ohio, where they made their home until death. The father served as justice of the peace for some years, and was a man of considerable prominence in his community.

John B. Sutton was reared in Muskingum county, Ohio, and obtained his education in the country schools and those of Zanes-

ville. He remained on his father's farm until reaching manhood, and then engaged in teaching school during the winter months and in farming during the summer season, his time being spent in this way from the age of eighteen to fifty years, missing only a few winter terms. In Muskingum county, he was married, February 12, 1852, to Miss Johanna Hanks, a native of that county. Her father, Jeremiah Hanks, was from Virginia, and was a second cousin of Abraham Lincoln.

In 1865 Mr. Sutton sold his farm in Ohio and moved to Wayne county, Iowa, where he purchased one tract of two hundred and forty acres of land, another of two hundred acres. He made a number of improvements upon these and engaged in their cultivation until 1868, when the doctors advised a change of climate in the hopes of benefiting his wife's health, and he came to Livingston county, Illinois. He first located in Indian Grove township and purchased a farm near Fairbury, which he improved, and in connection with its cultivation he engaged in school teaching. On selling that place, in 1880, he bought a farm in Charlotte township, upon which he made most of the improvements. The first house he erected thereon was destroyed by fire, but was soon replaced by another, and he also built good barns, cribs and other buildings. He tiled the land, planted an orchard and set out shade trees, making his farm one of the best in the township. This place he still owns, but has made his home in Wing since June, 1897, and has erected a comfortable residence there.

Mrs. Sutton died October 20, 1898, leaving four children, namely: (1) Charles, whose wife is dead, has two children, Ivy and Effie, and now lives in Wing. (2) Albert, who lives on his father's farm, married Almina Williams, and they have five children, Edna, Lois, John, Clifford and Homer. (3) Howard and (4) Elmore are with their father. One daughter, Clara Ann, married William Large, and died July 3, 1894, leaving four children: Maude E., Dwight, Marion and Ethel May.

While a resident of Ohio, Mr. Sutton served as clerk of his township, and in Charlotte township, Livingston county, was two or three times elected justice of the peace, but refused to qualify. Since casting his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont he has been a stanch Republican, and a delegate to the different conventions of his party. For a number of years he had been a patron of the Wing postoffice, and in September, 1897, was appointed postmaster, which office he has since most creditably filled. Besides his residence he has erected a postoffice building in that place. Mr. Sutton is one of the five charter members of the Methodist Episcopal church of Wing, which was organized in a school house, and was chairman of the building committee when the church edifice was erected. He has always taken an active and prominent part in church work and has served as class leader and steward.

WILLIAM W. ZOLLINGER.

William W. Zollinger, who is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 13, Sullivan township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born on the 30th of June, 1852, in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, of which his parents, George K. and Mary (Britton) Zollinger, are also natives. The father followed farming for many

years, but is now living retired in Green village, that county. Both he and his wife are seventy-three years of age. In politics he is a Democrat, and has been active in advancing the interests of his party. His father, Frederick Zollinger, was of German extraction and a life-long resident of Pennsylvania. Our subject is the oldest in a family of three children, the others being Lucy, wife of J. D. Ludwig, of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania; and Maggie L., wife of Elmer Bollinger, of Green, that state.

In the county of his nativity William W. Zollinger was reared and educated. At the age of twenty-two years he came to Ligingston county, Illinois, and found employment in Sullivan township at twenty-two dollars per month. Here he worked for five years. On the 20th of February, 1880, he wedded Miss Mary Martin, a native of Bureau county, Illinois. Her father, James Martin, was one of the early settlers of that county, and a large land owner, having four hundred and eighty acres there and nine hundred acres in Livingston county. For some time he made his home in Sullivan township, the latter county, and in 1890 moved to Oklahoma territory, where he died six years later. In his family were seven children: Sarah, Emma, Jane, Sanford, Mary, William and Ella, all yet living. Sarah, the wife of G. W. Boeman, of Cullom, and Mrs. Zollinger are the only ones living in Livingston county. Our subject and his wife have two children: George W. and Lee W., both attending the district school.

After his marriage Mr. Zollinger purchased eighty acres of land in Ford county, just across the line from Livingston county, and after living there for thirteen years bought his present farm of two hundred acres on section 13, Sullivan township, Livingston county. He is engaged principally in general farming, but devotes considerable attention to the raising of Norman draft horses. Success has attended his well-directed efforts and to-day he is one of the well-to-do citizens of his community as well as one of its most highly respected men. Formerly he affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and was a supporter of the Democratic party until 1896, when he voted for William McKinley and sound money. He has served as road commissioner three years and school director nine years, and has always taken an active and commendable interest in educational affairs.

WILL L. TALBOTT.

Will L. Talbott, the present well-known and popular sheriff of Livingston county, was born in Iowa City, Iowa, September 23, 1862, and is a son of Lewis William and Lorena (Ottwell) Talbott. His paternal grandfather was William Talbott, at one time chief of police in Indianapolis and a soldier of the Revolutionary war from New Jersey. He was a pioneer of Indiana, locating first at Bloomington, near Indianapolis, and later removing to that city, where he died. The mother of our subject was a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Thomas Ottwell, who belonged to a prominent family of that state, but was a strong anti-slavery man and Abolitionist. He was also an early settler and made his home in a village near Indianapolis until after the marriage of his daughter.

Lewis W. Talbott, our subject's father, was born and reared on a farm in Indiana and later followed farming. In covered

wagons drawn by ox-teams he and his wife crossed Indiana and Illinois; were ferried across the Mississippi river at Davenport, and proceeded to Iowa City, in 1846, locating there before the town was established. There he engaged in merchandising for many years, and also served as city marshal at an early day when the locality was considered the frontier. Later he served as alderman of the city, and for three years was a member of Company I, Twenty-second Iowa Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and for one hundred days as first lieutenant in the Thirty-third Regiment. Among the many engagements in which he took part was the siege of Vicksburg. He was never wounded, but contracted disease, which ultimately caused his death. He continued to engage in merchandising after the war until failing health caused his retirement. He was a good musician in early days and was a prominent and active member of the Methodist Episcopal church, his home being the stopping place for circuit riders. He served as class leader, steward, trustee and superintendent of the Sunday school, in fact was one of the pillars of the church to which he belonged. He was always an active Republican and held different local offices. He died in 1888, honored and respected by all who knew him. His estimable wife and eight children survive him.

Our subject, who is the fifth child and youngest son in this family, began his education in the common schools of Iowa City and completed the high school course. Having considerable oratorical ability and desiring to become an actor, he went upon the stage at the age of eighteen years and spent ten years before the footlights, meeting with marked success. He played in all of the principal cities of the United States and Canada.

On the 30th of December, 1890, Mr. Talbott married Miss Grace E. Munger, of Iowa City, a daughter of Don A. Munger, who was for some years proprietor of the Phœnix hotel of Pontiac, and one of the Munger Brothers, who had hotels all through this section of the United States. Later he moved to Iowa City, where he was proprietor of the St. James, the leading hotel of the place, for some years. By this union has been born a daughter, Helen Lorraine.

On leaving the stage, Mr. Talbott was engaged in the hotel business in Sandwich for one year, and on selling out came to Pontiac, after which he was a commercial traveler for a Chicago house five years. He was then appointed deputy sheriff and filled that position two years. As a Republican he has taken an active and prominent part in local politics, and in 1898, out of five candidates, received the nomination of his party for sheriff. He was elected by a majority of fourteen hundred and thirteen, though the usual majority was less than ten hundred, it being the largest majority ever given a candidate in this county. He assumed the duties of the office December 5, 1898, and up to the present time has had charge of over two hundred criminals and has proved a most efficient and capable officer. He worked up the case of the Cornell Bank robbery, the Rightsell murder case, and a great many others, such as horse stealing, highway robbery, etc. As a detective he has been remarkably successful, and he has also performed a large amount of civil business in a most satisfactory manner. The duties of the office have never been more ably or satisfactorily discharged than under his administration, and he is certainly the right

man in the right place. Socially Mr. Talbott is an honored member of the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America and he has been a member of the board of managers of the last named organization for a number of years. He also belongs to the Toilers and Pioneer Reserves.

JUDGE THOMAS KENNEDY.

Hon. Thomas Kennedy, the present county judge of Woodford county, is recognized as one of the leading members of the legal profession in the county. He was born on a farm in Minonk township, December 6, 1858, and is a son of Thomas and Catherine (Flynn) Kennedy, the father a native of Ireland and the mother of New Hampshire. She died in 1863, at the age of thirty-two years, leaving a family of five children, of whom Thomas is the subject of this sketch. Mary and Charles reside upon the home farm in Minonk township, Woodford county. Emmeline lives in San Francisco, California. Elizabeth Rose taught school for awhile in Woodford and La Salle counties. She is now employed as a stenographer and bookkeeper in the office of the Chicago & Minonk Coal and Tile Company.

Thomas Kennedy, sr., lived in Ireland until he was about eighteen years of age when he went to Jersey island, off the coast of France, where he lived about four years. He came to the United States about 1851, landing at Boston. About 1854 he came west with Mr. Fisher, a pork packer of Lacon, Marshall county, Illinois, and entered the employ of that gentleman, with whom he continued for two or three years. He then came to Minonk, Woodford county, in 1856, and went on a farm on section 2, belonging to Mr. Fisher, and there continued to reside for eleven or twelve years. The farm is now owned by Michael McNamara. Afterwards he rented the farm now owned by Joseph E. Hindret, in the same township, where he remained for ten years. In 1875 he bought the farm now known as the Kennedy farm on section 4, Minonk township, to which he removed in 1878, and there continued to reside the remainder of his life. He died November 1, 1878, when about fifty years of age, leaving an unimpeachable reputation for honesty and faithful performance of life's duties.

On those farms in Minonk township the subject of this sketch grew to manhood, and by reading such books as were obtainable and attending the common schools of the neighborhood during the winter months, obtained his education. After attaining his majority he taught school for about three years, and in 1884 commenced reading law with M. L. Newell of Minonk, and in June, 1886, was admitted to practice in the courts of the state. After his admission he worked for his preceptor for one year. In September, 1887, Mr. Kennedy moved to Metamora, then the county seat of Woodford county, where he engaged in general practice for a year and a half, during which time he served as master in chancery of Woodford county. In 1888 he was elected state's attorney of the county, and served in that office eight years. From 1889 to 1893 he was in partnership with M. L. Newell at Minonk, Illinois, under the firm name of Newell & Kennedy. Mr. Newell moved to Springfield, Illinois, in 1893 and Mr. Kennedy succeeded to the business of the firm. In 1898 he was elected county judge for a term of

four years and is now filling that responsible position, with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of the people.

On July 12, 1894, Judge Kennedy was married to Miss Clara E. Hart, of Bloomington, Illinois, daughter of Allen Hart, one of the early settlers of Palestine township, in Woodford county. For several years prior to her marriage, Mrs. Kennedy was a teacher in the public schools of Minonk, where she won an enviable reputation as a teacher. One child has come to bless their union, Kaywin Kennedy, born December 24, 1895. The family reside in a pleasant home in the city of Minonk. The Judge spends only part of his time at his office in Minonk, his duties as county judge requiring his presence at the court house in Eureka, the first week of each month and every Thursday.

Since his admission to the bar, the Judge has been in active practice and has met with gratifying success. He is well read in law and is a thorough student. He has the confidence of his colleagues in the profession, and the people trust him implicitly. A lifelong resident of the county, he has made many friends and is held in the highest esteem.

GEORGE W. HEMSTREET.

George W. Hemstreet, one of the patriots who gave up their lives for the preservation of the Union and the cause of freedom, was born in Syracuse, New York, November 20, 1835. His father, William Hemstreet, was born in Holland, November 15, 1807, and when a small boy came to this country with his parents. He was married in Lafayette, Onondaga county, New York, March 10, 1831, to Miss Sophia Parker, and from there removed to Syracuse, where as a blacksmith and carriage maker he was engaged in business for many years. About 1883 he came to La Salle, Illinois, where he carried on the same business, being one of the pioneer carriage makers of that place, but in 1860 he sold his property there and moved to his farm in Blue Mound township, McLean county, not far from Bloomington. To the improvement and cultivation of that place he devoted his energies for some years, but finally disposed of it and made his home with a son in Delavan, Wisconsin, where he died about 1893. His wife died at the home of a daughter in Chicago, five years later. Both were earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

George W. Hemstreet received his education in the schools of his native city, and there he was engaged in business with his father for a short time, but later learned the trade of a mason, to which he ever afterward devoted his attention. He came to Pontiac, Illinois, in 1855, and engaged in building, working on the most prominent buildings erected at that time, including the first brick court house at this place. Here he continued to follow his chosen occupation until the outbreak of the civil war. He was married, May 14, 1858, to Miss Nancy M. Rollins, of Pontiac. He enlisted in the Fifty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and participated in all of the engagements in which his regiment took part up to the battle of Jackson, Mississippi, where he was killed July 12, 1863. He entered the service as orderly, and at the time of his death had risen to the rank of lieutenant, being promoted for gallant and meritorious service on the field of battle. Besides his widow, he left one daughter, Minnie M., now a resi-

dent of Chicago. He was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him, and in his death the community realized that it had lost a valued citizen.

Mrs. Hemstreet is a native of Cicero, Indiana, and a daughter of Philip and Martha (De Moss) Rollins. The father was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, and as a youth removed to Indiana, where he met his future wife, then a widow—Mrs. Hannaman. There he engaged in farming until October, 1842, when he came to Livingston county, and located two miles east of Pontiac, where he built a log cabin on his two-hundred-acre tract of wild land. To the further improvement and cultivation of his farm he gave his entire time and attention, and prospering in his undertakings, he added to it until he had a valuable land of three hundred acres under excellent cultivation. Upon that place he continued to make his home until his death, which occurred January 9, 1897, and his wife passed away July 22, 1896. She was long an earnest and faithful member of the Presbyterian church, and Mr. Rollins was baptized into the same church late in life. He served as justice of the peace and school director, and filled other local offices in a most creditable manner. At the corner of Plum and Howard streets he built the first brick house ever erected in Pontiac, and lived there for five years that he might give his children better educational advantages than the country schools afforded, after which he returned to his farm. He had much to do in selling and conveyancing land, and was a business man of much more than ordinary business ability. In his family were two sons and three daughters, besides a step-son, Peter Hannaman, who resided in Pontiac until recently, but is now living in Los Angeles, California. His own children were: Charles W., who lived on a farm adjoining the old homestead and died recently at the age of sixty years; Nancy M., now Mrs. Hemstreet; Martha M., wife of Mr. Lidell, of Chicago; Emeline, widow of Harry Hill; and William H.. who lives on the old home farm.

Mrs. Hemstreet well remembers when with her parents she came to Livingston county, driving through Pontiac when not a tree or a house marked the site of that present thriving city, and she has watched with interest its entire growth and development. For thirty years she has been an active member of the Presbyterian church, has served as president of the Ladies' Aid Society of the church, and has taken a prominent part in all its work. She has also been a leading member of the Ladies' Relief Corps, an auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic, and often meets with them at their encampments. Wherever known she is held in high regard and her friends are many in the city which has so long been her home.

REV. M. P. O'BRIEN.

Father O'Brien, pastor of St. Patrick's church, of Dwight, Illinois, was born in county Waterford, Ireland, in 1846, and when a boy of five years moved to England with his parents, John and Anastasia (Foley) O'Brien, also natives of county Waterford. The family located in county Durham, England, where the father followed his chosen occupation of farming up to within a year of his death, when he returned to Ireland and there died. In his father's family were four children, three of whom are still living, namely: Peter, James and M. P.

During his boyhood and youth Father O'Brien attended St. Augustine's Catholic school at Arlington, and after completing his studies at that institution he taught school in London and Liverpool at the French Christian Brothers school for two years. He was then advised by his spiritual director to the study of Paul and enter the ranks of the priesthood, which he decided to do. With this purpose in view he went to Italy at the age of eighteen years, stopping first at Turin and later at Montori. After his ordination he was attached to the diocese in northern England, in charge of churches in Hexham and Newcastle, where he remained as priest for a number of years.

On coming to America Father O'Brien entered the Peoria diocese, and for six years was pastor of St. Mary's church at Carthage, Illinois, during which time he made many improvements in the church property. He conducted services in Carthage two Sundays out of the month; while one Sunday was spent in La Harpe, the other in West Point and Giddings Mount, as he was in charge of the congregations at all four places. In July, 1896, Father O'Brien came to Dwight as pastor of St. Patrick's church, and has since erected their new house of worship at a cost of eleven thousand dollars. The furnishings were all put in by the Springfield Manufacturing Company at a cost of forty-five thousand dollars, and the heating apparatus—a hot air system—cost one thousand dollars. Father O'Brien also built St. Bernard's church at Sunbury, Livingston county, in August, 1898, at a cost of eight thousand dollars. It is also well heated and furnished in the same manner as the Dwight church. Through his indefatigable energy and perseverance both churches have been freed from debt and now have a surplus. He holds services at each church two Sundays in the month.

The parish of Dwight is one of the oldest in the diocese of Peoria, and has had as outmissions at different times the parishes of Odell, Pontiac, Kinsman, Flanagan, Ransom and Campus. It has had a resident priest since 1867, its first pastor being Rev. L. Dunne, who served from 1867 to 1870; followed by Rev. L. Hanley, from 1871 to 1877; and Rev. J. Halpin, from 1878 to 1882. The last named was succeeded by Rev. J. Recouvreur, who remained until 1885. Then came Father Belanger for a year, who was succeeded by Rev. S. B. Hedges, who remained until 1889. Rev. F. B. Moore succeeded him and remained until 1897. He began the new church, which was completed by his successor, the present pastor, Rev. M. P. O'Brien, who has labored untiringly for the church and its interests.

THOMAS A. DANIELS.

This well-known citizen of Flanagan, Illinois, an honored veteran of the civil war, was born in St. Louis, Missouri, April 19, 1847, and is of English and Scotch descent. His paternal grandfather, John Daniels, was for many years a prominent marble merchant of Liverpool, England, and when last heard from was still doing an extensive business at that place. The father, John Daniels, Jr., was born in Liverpool, and came to America with his twin brother, Henry, in 1845, when quite young, locating first in St. Louis. There he married Margaret Turnbull, a native of Edinburg, Scotland, who came to this country with her parents when only eleven years old. For several

years her father was engaged in business as a merchant tailor at St. Louis, and there reared his family, numbering the following named children: Georgiana, wife of Samuel J. Richards, of St. Louis; Kate, wife of Alexander Yale, of the same place; Bessie, wife of James Graham, of Nashville, Tennessee; Margaret, mother of our subject; John, who died while serving as an officer in the Confederate army during the Civil war; William, who is operating a flouring mill near St. Louis; and Frank, a resident of that city. The children born to John and Margaret (Turnbull) Daniels were as follows: Thomas A., of this review; Frank, who died in Ferndale, California, November 2, 1894; William, a harness dealer, of San Francisco, California; and Ella, who is the widow of Edward Grogan, a shoe merchant of San Francisco, and is now engaged in missionary work in Japan and China. The father of this family died in 1854, at the age of twenty-six years, and for her second husband the mother married his twin brother, Henry Daniels, who died shortly after their marriage. She now makes her home at 1625 Church street, San Francisco, California.

Thomas A. Daniels was only a month old when his parents moved to Nashville, Tennessee, but after the death of his stepfather, in 1859, the family returned to St. Louis. Later they lived in Independence and St. Joseph, Missouri, and from the latter place again returned to St. Louis, where the mother made her home until going to California. Thomas A. was educated by private tutors. He was quite young when the Civil war broke out, but on the 8th of August, 1862, at the age of fifteen years, he enlisted at Benton Barracks, St. Louis, in Company C, Thirty-third Missouri Volunteer Infantry, as a musician, in which capacity he served all through the war. In the fall of 1862 he was in the southwestern Missouri campaign against General Price, and returning to St. Louis in a very dangerous condition, he was sent to the Fifth street hospital. On his recovery he went south, up the Yazoo river, and participated in the storming of Fort Pemberton, and in the operations in the rear of Vicksburg. He next went to Helena, Arkansas, and was in battle at that place, July 4, against General Price. He was in the Black river and Meridian campaigns against General Johnston, and took part in the Red river expedition, being in several engagements on the Louisiana side. With his command he next went up the Mississippi to Memphis, Tennessee, and was in battle at Tupela against General Forrest. After the defeat of Sturgess, Mr. Daniels was sent to the Overton Hospital in Memphis, dangerously ill. While convalescing he was sent to Fort Pickens, and there volunteered to act as guard over new recruits, bounty jumpers and deserters. While returning to Memphis, he took part in the engagement at Grand Prairie, where he was slightly wounded. After the battle of Nashville he was sent to Fort Pickens, later to Schopafield Barracks, St. Louis, and from there to Camp Douglas, Chicago. In January, 1865, he was transferred to Company A, Fifteenth Regiment Veteran Reserve Corps, and was ordered to Cairo, where he was mustered out July 13, that year, by general order of the war department.

At the close of the war Mr. Daniels served an apprenticeship at carriage making in Joliet, Illinois. In 1868 he removed to Odell, where he worked at his trade until 1887, and later followed the same occupation at Washington. Since 1889 he has

made his home in Flanagan and is numbered among its honored and highly respected citizens. Fraternally he is a member of the Grand Army Post of Pontiac.

On the 24th of December, 1870, Mr. Daniels was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Halm, daughter of Jacob and Helen (Muller) Halm, of Odell, and by this union have been born eight children, namely: Lillian Eglantine, born October 9, 1871, is the wife of J. J. Miles, of Flanagan; Margaret Elizabeth, born December 26, 1873, is the wife of C. B. Howe, of the same place; Viola Elsie, born October 25, 1875, is the wife of R. G. Murphy, of Flanagan; Bessie Rosa Lola, born October 25, 1878, is the wife of Dr. J. K. Means, of Pontiac; Elsie May Alferetta, born January 20, 1881, is clerking in the postoffice at Flanagan; Cleveland Francis, born December 11, 1883, died August 21, 1895; Grover Clifford, born May 4, 1885, and George Valentine, born February 14, 1888, are both at home.

MARSHALL DeFOREST WILDER.

Among the leading agriculturists of Waldo township, Livingston county, is the subject of this review, who was born in Washingtonville, Oswego county, New York, May 17, 1836, a son of Edson and Susan (Titus) Wilder. The former died March 4, 1896. The mother is yet living and makes her home in Pontiac. Our subject attended school almost uninterruptedly until sixteen years of age, and then entered the employ of Levi Matthews, of Mexicoville, with whom he remained four months. Returning home at the end of that time he accepted a clerkship in the store of E. V. Robbins, but on the first of the following December he entered the seminary at Fort Plain in Montgomery county, New York, where he studied until spring, when he resumed work in the store, remaining with Mr. Robbins' successors, Pruyn & Alton, until January. He then attended school until spring, when he procured employment as clerk for I. C. & A. N. Harding, remaining with them two years. In 1855, at the age of twenty years, he removed to Peoria county, Illinois, where his father rented land, and in connection with his two brothers he engaged in farming. Two years later they bought one hundred and twenty acres of land, but in 1864 sold that place and came to Livingston county, where they jointly purchased a farm of two hundred and fifty-six acres. In partnership they engaged in its operation until 1880, when the connection was dissolved by mutual consent. Our subject now owns a well-improved and highly cultivated farm in Waldo township, and is successfully engaged in its operation.

On the 25th of May, 1873, Mr. Wilder was united in marriage with Miss Frances Adelaide Dingman, daughter of Henry and Lavinia (Ferguson) Dingman, of Oswego county, New York. Her father, who was of German descent, was born in 1797, and died July 12, 1876, while her mother, who was of Scotch origin, was born in 1811, and died July 12, 1864. Their other children were as follows: Johanna, deceased wife of Thomas Tripp; Margaret, deceased wife of Jonathan Salisbury, of Iowa; James, of Oswego county, New York, who married Olive Sheldon; Hannah, the second wife of John Cain, his first wife being her younger sister, Mary Jane; Henry, who married

Mary Smith and lives in Jefferson county, New York; Lavinia, wife of Martin H. Thomas, of Oswego county, New York; Samantha, wife of James Kelly, of Reading, Michigan; Alvira, who first married Newton Ames, who died in the army, and second married John Raymond, of Canada; and Annetta, wife of Delos Watkins, of Oswego county, New York. Mrs. Wilder was born in Orwell, Oswego county, April 14, 1840, and is the tenth in order of birth in this family of eleven children.

Our subject and his wife have four children: Netta D., born January 24, 1874, was married February 10, 1897, to Gilbert Blaine Farman, of Gridley, Illinois, and has one child, Marshall Howard, born July 31, 1898; Mary J., born September 6, 1875, was married October 15, 1895, to Charles Shanebrook, of Gridley, and has one child, Clarence Chester, born August 14, 1896. Henry H., born December 6, 1876, and Cleo Pearl, born September 8, 1885, are both at home.

During the Civil war Mr. Wilder enlisted in February, 1865, in Company B, Seventh Illinois Cavalry, and was commissioned second lieutenant. His command was assigned to General Sherman's army and from Springfield, Illinois, went to New York, thence down the coast to Morehead City, North Carolina. From there they marched to Raleigh, where they joined the regiment, and remained with it until the surrender of Johnston. They participated in the grand review at Washington, D. C., and while there received orders to proceed to Texas, but these orders were afterward countermanded and they then went to Louisville, Kentucky, where they were mustered out of service. Mr. Wilder was honorably discharged July 9, 1865. Among his most highly treasured possessions is a sword presented him by his company at Springfield, Illinois.

In his political views Mr. Wilder is a Democrat and cast his first presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas. In April, 1877, he was elected township clerk, which office he held continuously until 1882, when elected supervisor, and re-elected the following year, after which he refused longer to accept the office. In December, 1878, he was appointed township collector to fill a vacancy and when he retired from the office of supervisor was re-elected township clerk, which position he filled for many years. He was census enumerator in 1890, and has held the office of justice of the peace since 1896. In September, 1899, he was appointed supervisor at a meeting of the board of auditors to fill a vacancy, and on the expiration of that term in the spring of 1900 he was elected to that position, which he is now so creditably and acceptably filling. Fraternally he is a member of Martin Post, No. 291, G. A. R., of Gridley, and he is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him.

HENRY SEMANS.

On the 5th of November, 1878, there passed away at his home in Reading township, Livingston county, Henry Semans, who for several years was prominently identified with the agricultural interests of that section. A native of Illinois, he was born in LaSalle county, May 11, 1835, and was the son of Ezra and Mary (Macky) Semans, natives of Pennsylvania, and early settlers of LaSalle county, where the father took a farm, making his home there throughout

the remainder of his life. He died at the age of sixty-four years, his wife at the age of seventy-eight. In their family were six children, namely: Amanda, Macky and Henry, all deceased; Cirena, wife of David Besore, of Ottawa; Mary A., widow of Ephraim Boserman and a resident of Ottawa; and Almira, also a resident of that place.

In the common schools of his native county Henry Semans acquired his education, and he remained at home until he attained his majority. On the 17th of December, 1860, he was united in marriage with Rebecca Wade, a native of Massachusetts, and to them were born six children, as follows: Robert H., who is engaged in the creamery business in Streator, Illinois, married Eva Harris, and they have two children, Lloyd H. and Virgil R. Arthur is connected with the Illinois Central Railroad at Chicago. Hugh D., a resident of Newton township, who is engaged in farming on the home place, married Nellie Defenbaugh, and they have three children, Gladys, Selma and Zola. Eliza is the wife of W. H. Barickman, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Nora is at home with her mother. Melvin, who manages the home place, married Emma Barickman, and they have one child, Lester.

Robert Wade, the father of Mrs. Semans, was born in Leeds, England, and in that country followed mining until nineteen years of age, when he came to America and located at Fall River, Massachusetts, where he secured employment in a cotton mill, as a muslin bleacher. There he married Eliza Wilson, also a native of England, born in Manchester. In 1840 they came west by way of the Great Lakes to Chicago, and thence by stage to Ottawa, which was then a small village of two or three houses and one store. Mr. Wade purchased a tract of land near the present site of Streator, and there successfully engaged in farming until within a few years of his death, when he retired from active life. He died on the 27th of October, 1882, at the age of seventy-six years, and his wife departed this life at the age of fifty-nine. Mrs. Semans was the older of their two children, the other being Elizabeth, deceased wife of James Sexton, who is now living in Streator. They had two children.

After their marriage in 1860, Mr. and Mrs. Semans came to Livingston county and he purchased a partially improved farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Reading township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies throughout the remainder of his life. As his financial resources increased, he added to his landed possessions from time to time, until at his death he had three hundred and sixty acres. His remains were interred in Wolf Creek cemetery, in Otter Creek township, La Salle county. By his ballot he supported the men and measures of the Democratic party, but never cared for public office. He not only gained a comfortable competence, but also won the respect and confidence of all with whom he came in contact either in business or social life.

A. C. SCHLOSSER.

This enterprising and progressive young business man of Panola, was born in Bloomington, McLean county, Illinois, September 9, 1866, and is a son of George and Elizabeth (Huffman) Schlosser, natives of Germany, who came with their respective par-

ents to America when young and settled in Ohio, being among the first settlers of that state. There their marriage was celebrated. On coming west they located in Bloomington, McLean county, Illinois, where they reared their family of ten children. The father, who followed farming throughout the greater part of his life, died October 5, 1899, at the age of sixty-four years and nine months, but the mother is still living, and now resides in Merna, McLean county.

The subject of this sketch remained at home until he attained the age of twenty-two years, and then engaged in farming for two years. In March, 1892, he embarked in the grain business at Hudson, Illinois, but remained at that place only four months before coming to Panola, where he and a partner, James A. Esler, rented the north elevator on the Illinois Central Railroad, and where they engaged in the grain business for about two years and a half, since which time Mr. Schlosser has been alone in business. In 1896 he purchased the south elevator, which he still conducts, and in the summer of 1900 erected another large elevator on the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad at Euright, a small station about two and a half miles east of El Paso, where he is also engaged in buying grain. He has been handling between three and four hundred thousand bushels of grain annually, and with the added capacity of his new elevator at Euright the volume of his business will be largely increased. He also conducts a coal and lumber yard, and carries on an extensive live stock business at Panola; also a coal yard at Euright in connection with his elevator there. He is one of the most energetic and progressive business men in his section of the county, and is meeting with excellent success in his undertakings.

In April, 1899, Mr. Schlosser was elected supervisor of Panola township, which office he is now most creditably filling, discharging its duties with his characteristic business ability and fairness. In his political views he is a stanch Democrat, and one of the active supporters of that party in Woodford county. Fraternally Mr. Schlosser is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

THE FARMERS BANK OF ROANOKE.

Among the banks of Woodford county none have met with better success than the Farmers Bank of Roanoke, which was organized in 1894, soon after the fire of 1893, which burned out the block which it now occupies, it being opened for business October 10, 1894. It is connected with the bank of Henry Denhart & Company, of Washington, Illinois, and does a general banking, real estate and loan business. When opened for business its deposits amounted to ten thousand six hundred and eighty-eight dollars, which was increased to seventeen dollars the second; sixty-two thousand dollars the third; over ninety thousand dollars the fifth; and one hundred and forty thousand dollars at present; thus showing a gradual and healthy increase. By its safe, conservative methods the bank has gained the confidence of the people in its vicinity, and has a rich country to draw from. Its officers are Henry Denhart, of Washington, president; Henry D. Harms, of the same place, vice-president; and Louis W. Harms, of Roanoke, cashier; all upright, reliable men, of good business and executive ability.

COL. BAZEL D. MEEK.

Col. Bazel D. Meek, an old and prominent attorney of Eureka, and at present chairman of the board of supervisors for Woodford county, Illinois, was born near Vernon, the county seat of Jennings county, Indiana, December 6, 1828, and is a son of Henry B. and Parthenia A. (Perry) Meek, the former a native of Kentucky, born near Somerset, Pulaski county, in 1804.

Jacob Meek, the great-grandfather of our subject, was born in Lincolnshire, England. He came to this country in 1690, when a boy, in company with a brother, and settled on the James river, in Virginia. He married and moved to North Carolina, but later moved to Hagerstown, Maryland, where his death occurred. In his family were thirteen sons and three daughters, one of his daughters, Nancy, marrying Paul Hulse, who fought so bravely through the Revolutionary war. Jacob Meek, with his sons, was in many of the battles with the Indians in the early part of the seventeenth century.

Lewis, Nathan and David, his sons, fought through the Revolutionary war, Bazel, the grandfather of our subject, being too young to participate. Lewis, the first born of the family, was supposed to have been killed at Braddock's defeat, and a younger half brother was named Lewis. It was the latter who served throughout the war. Later the first born Lewis appeared, and thus it was that there were two sons by the name of Lewis in the family.

Bazel Meek, the grandfather, who was born near Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1763, was a member of the Home Guards during the Revolutionary war, and was in a number of fights with the Indians. He moved to Kentucky in 1790, and there married Miss Roberts, who, with her parents, moved to Kentucky with Daniel Boone. By occupation he was a farmer. He was prominent in politics, and for eight years was sheriff of Pulaski county. Tall of stature, he was a man of fine physique and manly in his bearing and one in whom the people would instinctively trust. From Kentucky he moved to Jennings county, Indiana, and there also served as sheriff for a period of eight years. In 1833 he came to Woodford county, Illinois, and while he never here engaged in active labor, he purchased a tract of land in Greene township, but died in a house near the father of our subject about 1846. Politically he was a Jacksonian Democrat. For many years he was a member of the Baptist church, but was one of those who united to form the First Christian church in Walnut Grove, near Eureka. He was very active in the church up to the time of his death, and was a firm believer in the gospel of Christ.

Henry B. Meek, the father of our subject, grew to manhood in Kentucky, and when a young man moved to Jennings county, Indiana, where he was united in marriage with Miss Parthenia A. Perry, who was born near Knoxville, Tennessee, and a daughter of Ransom Perry, who moved from Tennessee to that country in an early day. The family was originally from North Carolina. While residing in Tennessee, Ransom Perry took an active part in public affairs, serving as probate judge, and also in other official positions. Loyal to his country, he served as a soldier in the war of 1812. From Indiana he later moved to Missouri, locating near Carthage, Jasper county, where he died about 1857.

On the 12th of April, 1830, Henry B. Meek, with his family, landed at Walnut Grove, Woodford county, but which was

COL. BAZIL D. MEEK.

then a part of Tazewell county, and there made a permanent settlement. He first purchased a small tract of land, which he improved, and to which he added from time to time until he had about thirteen hundred acres, a part of which he later deeded to his children, leaving him about eight hundred acres at the time of his death. He was a thoroughly practical farmer, and was more than usually successful. He was not an aspirant for office and would accept none, save that of commissioner of highways, taking the position that he might use the office to secure better roads. One of the pioneers of the county, he did his duty faithfully and well and those now living are receiving the benefit of his labors, together with those of his associates. He was a member of the Christian church, a faithful disciple of Christ, and one of the solid, substantial men of the community. He died in September, 1883, and his wife in December, 1888. She was also a member of the Christian church and loyal to the lowly Nazarene. They left a family of five children, three sons and two daughters.

The subject of this sketch came to Woodford county when about sixteen months old, his mother riding on horseback and carrying him in her arms from the Indiana home. On the home farm in Walnut Grove, his boyhood and youth were spent, in the winter attending school in the old log school house near his father's place, while his summers were spent in assisting in the farm work. For a time he attended school in Cherry Grove Academy, in Knox county, and later was a student in Knox College at Galesburg. After leaving college he was engaged in teaching for two winters.

In his youth Col. Meek had a strong desire to take up the study of medicine, but circumstances prevented it. In 1849-50 the gold fever was raging throughout the country, fabulous stories being told of the discovery of gold in California, and the great wealth in waiting for the adventurous ones. With several others, he started across the plains to the New Elorado, with a mule train, crossing the Missouri river at St. Joseph, Missouri, April 28, of the same year, which was the quickest trip, with teams, that had been made across the mountains up to that time. They were the first that year to cross, with wagons, the snow of the Sierra Nevada mountains.

On his arrival in California Mr. Meek went into the Trinidad mines, but was soon taken sick and for the sake of his health he went north to Oregon, going first to Portland, and then on to the Tenoletin plains. There he was connected with lumber mills and was in that line of business for two years. Having had experience enough, he returned home in 1853, by Central America and New York.

It was the intention of Mr. Meek, on coming home, to engage in farming, but he was soon afterwards nominated for county treasurer and assessor of the county on the Democratic ticket and was duly elected. While serving his term of two years he read law, and was then nominated and elected county judge, filling that position one term.

On the breaking out of the Civil war, in 1861, he received permission from the government to raise a regiment, and on the 20th of December, 1861, it was mustered into the service as the Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, Mr. Meeks receiving a commission as lieutenant-colonel, while Robert G. Ingersoll was made colonel. The regiment went into camp at Peoria, where it remained until early in February, 1862, when it was sent to Benton

Barracks, near St. Louis, Missouri, and early in March it was ordered south into Tennessee, where it a few weeks later took part in the battle of Shiloh. It was next in the march to Corinth, during which time Col. Meek had charge of the picket lines of the Sixth Division. He was then taken sick and was away from his regiment about four weeks. Returning he took part in the battles at Iuka, Hudson, Lexington, Tennessee, Parker's Cross Roads, and other minor engagements, and was also on many guerrilla skirmishes with the enemy. During the greater part of his term of service he commanded the regiment, Colonel Ingersoll being away on detached service. For a short time he was also in command of his brigade. In consequence of the great loss in his regiment and its reduction in numbers, he resigned his commission in the fall of 1863 and returned home.

Shortly after his return from the service Colonel Meek was examined for admission to the bar, and was licensed to practice in all the courts of the state. Locating in Eureka he engaged in practice, and from that time to the present he has been associated in most of the important cases in Woodford county and very often the special cases in adjoining counties. His success has been gratifying, indeed, and his record has been a clean one and always satisfying to his clients.

Colonel Meek has always been prominent in local affairs, and he has done much for the upbuilding and general welfare of his county. In 1868 he was for the second time elected county judge and filled the office acceptably for a term of four years. He has served as supervisor of his township a number of terms, and each time was elected and served as chairman of the board. He has served as a member of the school board about twenty years, and was a member when the large school house in Eureka was erected. His interest in the cause of education is shown by his long service in a thankless office. Before the war he also served as county superintendent of schools, during which time he did much to place the schools in the front rank, and in the adoption of progressive methods. In politics he has always been a Democrat, and has taken an active part in the county and state conventions of his party. In 1896 he was an alternate to the national Democratic convention which assembled at Chicago.

Colonel Meek was made a Mason in Taylor Lodge, Washington, Illinois, in 1854, and later was a charter member of W. C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, of Eureka, and was one to suggest its name. He was the third one to hold the office of worshipful master in the lodge. He was also a charter member of Dan Miles Post, No. 270, G. A. R., of Eureka, which was named in honor of one of his old friends, and was its first commander, a position which he is filling in 1900.

On the 22d of October, 1856, Colonel Meek was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Ward, of Canton, Illinois, but a native of Ohio, and a daughter of J. F. Ward, who moved from that state at an early day, locating in Eureka. By this union four children have been born, as follows: Parthenia, now Mrs. W. C. Mitchell, of Chicago; William D., of Chicago; Frank L., an attorney of Peoria, Illinois; and Henry B., who is in the internal revenue service at Peoria.

Colonel and Mrs. Meek are members of the Christian church and take quite an active interest in its work. Their home has been in Eureka since 1858, and none are

more highly respected or have more friends. The Colonel has owned and traded a great deal in land, and in business life has met with marked success. For seventy years he has been a citizen of the county, and the greater part of the time since reaching manhood has been in public life, and it can safely be said that no service required of him but has been faithfully discharged for the best interests of all. His life record is worthy of emulation.

HENRY C. BAIRD.

For almost half a century this gentleman has been prominently identified with the business and social interests of Eureka, and is numbered among its most honored and highly respected citizens. He was born in Hunterdon county, New Jersey, August 4, 1830, a son of Nicholas D. and Susan (Creed) Baird, also natives of that state, the former born in New Brunswick, the latter in Trenton. His paternal grandfather, Abram Baird, familiarly known as old Major Baird, having served with that rank in the militia, was of Scotch extraction and a direct descendant of the old Huguenots, from whom the family seem to have inherited their religious tendencies. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Rev. John D. Creed, was a Presbyterian minister of Trenton, New Jersey, but soon after the birth of Mrs. Baird the family moved to New Brunswick. He was also of Scotch descent. Nicholas D. Baird, the father of our subject, was principally engaged in business as a miller and grain dealer throughout his active business life. At one time he owned most of Bools Island in the Delaware river, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, and was one of the most prominent men of New Brunswick for many years in early life. Meeting with failure in some of his undertakings he taught school for some time to recuperate his fortune. He was known as Captain Baird, being commander of vessels, three of which he loaded and started for the West Indies with the intention of founding a colony, but the vessels were wrecked and he lost everything with the exception of the money he had in his pocket when picked up. He remained in West Indies for some time. Later in life he lived with our subject in Woodford county, Illinois, but finally returned to New Jersey, where he died in 1890. He was of a social, genial nature until becoming deaf, when he seemed to shun others. Religiously he was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, while the mother of our subject was a Presbyterian. She died in New Jersey when our subject was only a few weeks old.

Being left motherless, Henry C. Baird was reared by his maternal grandmother, who at that time was the wife of John Stryker, of Neshanic, New Jersey. After the death of her second husband she moved to Bound Brook, the same state, where she made her home with her son, John Creed. She was a wonderfully intelligent woman and well educated. From the age of ten years until reaching manhood Mr. Baird lived in Bound Brook and was educated at the old high school of that place. In early life he learned the harnessmaker's trade, and opened a shop of his own in Hunterdon county before he reached the age of twenty years. When he sold that he embarked in the Daguerrean business, being among the first to turn his attention to that art. He traveled quite extensively over New Jersey, meeting with remarkable success, and for a number of years conducted a gallery in Rah-

way, that state, but his health failed and he was obliged to retire from the business. In the spring of 1855 he came to Illinois and spent one year in recuperating. He then returned to New Jersey, but the following year took up his residence in Concord (now Danvers), Illinois, where he purchased a harness shop and conducted the same until coming to Eureka July 15, 1857. Hearing this was a temperance town and going to grow up as such, he determined to make it his home. He bought property and opened a harness shop, manufacturing the first harness made in this section of the state. He did a good business and furnished employment to two hands. He is now the only man living who was in business here at that time. Until 1865 he continued to work at his trade, and in the meantime became interested in the real estate and insurance business, to which he has since devoted his entire time and attention. He has been the leading insurance agent of the place since 1859, representing both fire and life insurance companies.

On the 7th of October, 1858, Mr. Baird was united in marriage with Miss Caroline E. Townley, of Westfield, New Jersey, a daughter of David Townley, a representative of one of the old families of that place. They had been engaged for seven years. Their children are, Lillian, at home; Maggie, wife of James A. Roberts, of Chicago; and Susan, wife of Lewis Hodgson, of Iowa.

For many years Mr. Baird has been an active and faithful member of the Christian church and served as superintendent of the Sunday school for eighteen years, a longer period than any other has filled the same office. During his entire residence in Eureka he has taken an active part in promoting the interests of the college; was one of its trustees for a number of years, and for several years served as treasurer of the same. He was also a trustee of the town during his early residence here and for years has filled the office of police magistrate. Politically he has been identified with the Republican party since its inception, and has been a delegate to different conventions of his party. Mr. Baird is a worthy representative of that class of citizens who lead quiet, industrious, honest and useful lives, and constitute the best portion of a community. Wherever known he is held in high regard, and as an honored pioneer and highly respected citizen he is certainly deserving of honorable mention in the history of his adopted country.

BELA M. STODDARD.

Bela M. Stoddard enjoys the honor of being the pioneer business man of Minonk, as for thirty-five years he has conducted a profitable trade here. Probably no one in the county is better known, and wherever he is known his praise is frequently on the lips of the people. Though his financial ventures have been extensive, his methods of transacting business have been so upright and just, so true to every contract and promise, that no one envies his success and no one criticises his career. His name is a guarantee of good faith, and his neighbors and business associates have the utmost confidence in his integrity and sound judgment.

It is no surprise to learn that our subject comes of the sterling old Puritan ancestry, his father, S. A. Stoddard, having been a native of Connecticut, while the mother, Nancy M. (Merrill) Stoddard, was born in Maine. At an early day the father removed

to New York state, where he was married, and in 1857 he removed with his family to McLean county, Illinois. There he purchased a quarter-section of land and for eighteen years was occupied in its cultivation. The first election held in his township was at his house, and a sugar-bowl, in which sixteen or seventeen ballots were deposited, served as a ballot-box. In 1875 he took up his residence in Chatsworth, where his devoted wife died seven years later in her eighty-second year. He survived her eleven years, dying at the venerable age of ninety-one. Both were almost life-long members of the Methodist Episcopal church, and possessed the grand traits of character, innate and acquired, which mark the true Christian. Kindly and sympathetic by nature, they ever sought to lend a helping hand to the poor and afflicted, and thus won the undying love and esteem of all who knew them. As might be expected of such a man, the father was strongly opposed to slavery, and was a stanch friend of the Union. When the Republican party was organized he joined the ranks of the party which had espoused the cause of the down trodden, and thenceforth cast his influence in that direction.

Of the eleven children born to this worthy couple three died in infancy. Nathaniel, who has been twice married, is a farmer in the vicinity of Rockville, Missouri. Charlotte, widow of Doctor Brigham, resides in Chicago, and George, whose wife, Laura Boyington, has passed away, lives in Seattle, Washington. Julia, who wedded E. S. Thomas, has entered the silent land. Mahala married Alonzo Straight, and their four children, Judd A., Dora, Ora B. and Frank K., are respected citizens of the several communities in which they dwell. J. A. lives in Chatsworth, Illinois; O. B., in Belle Flower, Illinois, and F. K., in Omaha, Nebraska, while Dora, formerly a teacher in the Minonk high school, is now a citizen of Chicago. The father died in 1862, when the children were young, and the mother reared them with great wisdom and tenderness. She was called to her reward in 1897, when in her sixty-fourth year. For forty-six years she had been a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and possessed the sincere love of all who knew her. Simon Abery, the youngest brother of our subject, was one of the brave boys who wore the blue in the Civil war, and after serving faithfully at the post of duty for about a year, he was instantly killed during the battle of Peach Tree Creek, Tennessee. He had enlisted as a private soldier in the second year of the war, in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Regiment of Illinois Infantry, and was only about twenty-one years old at the time of his sad death. Nancy, the youngest member of the family, is the wife of John Wickersham, of Kansas City.

B. M. Stoddard was born in Chautauqua county, New York, September 10, 1840, and accompanied his parents to Illinois when he was seventeen years of age. He received thorough training in agricultural methods and in the schools of the district obtained a liberal education. After the Civil war was declared he enlisted for three months, in the Seventy-first Illinois Infantry, and was stationed at Mound City, Illinois, on garrison duty, most of this period. Returning home he engaged in farming until the close of the war, when he came to Minonk.

For a year or more Mr. Stoddard was a partner of D. S. Thomas, conducting a general merchandising business, and then the firm of Stoddard & Newton was organized.

Gradually they became more and more extensively engaged in buying and selling grain, and at length, in 1876, they dissolved their business connection, Mr. Newton taking the store and its trade as his share, and Mr. Stoddard assuming the management of the grain business. He owns two elevators in Minonk and one at what is called Stoddard's Siding, near Chatsworth. This fertile country has contributed in grain a large proportion of the state's revenue, and our subject long ago had the foresight to predict this, and thus won a reputation for sagacity.

The marriage of Mr. Stoddard and Sarah E., daughter of Reuben P. and Lydia A. (Edwards) Bell, was solemnized March 10, 1868. The father, who died in Minonk, August 4, 1893, was born in Kentucky, March 3, 1810, and was a pioneer farmer of Marshall county, Illinois. His grandfather, Joseph Bell, a native of Pennsylvania, was a hero of the Revolution. He settled in the wilds of Kentucky in 1788, and lived to attain the great age of ninety-five years. Mrs. Stoddard has one sister living, Adelaide, wife of William S. Marquis, of Rock Island, Illinois.

The eldest child of our subject and wife is Reuben B., who is associated in business with his father in Minonk, and is a member of the firm of B. M. Stoddard, of Minonk, Illinois. Bertel M. is connected with the Toluca firm of B. M. Stoddard & Son. He married Minnie Simiter, and their son is named Bela M. Zadel M. and Malita E. were graduated in Lake Forest Seminary with the first honors of their respective classes, the first named being in that of 1895 and the latter in the class of 1896. Dorothy T. and Donald A. are at home and are students in the local school.

Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Stoddard are Presbyterians, and he is a trustee in the Minonk church. In political faith, he is a Republican, taking great interest in the issues of the day. Public-spirited, he has contributed materially to the prosperity of the community in which his lot has been cast, and his extensive financial operations have accrued to the benefit of the people of this locality in many ways.

COLUMBUS A. ROBESON.

Among the pioneers and representative citizens of Woodford county probably none is better known than Columbus A. Robeson, of Eureka. He is a native of the county, his birth occurring in the village of Bowling Green, November 2, 1841. His father, James Robeson, was born in South Carolina, May 21, 1797, and was a son of Andrew Robeson, a native of Ireland, who on coming to this country located in South Carolina, and during the boyhood of James moved to Kentucky, locating near Hopkinsville, where he followed farming. In 1832 he came to this state and made his home with the father of our subject until his death. On reaching manhood James Robeson married Jane Earle, who was born in Christian county, Kentucky, about 1807, a daughter of Baliss Earle, one of the pioneers of that state. Soon after their marriage they came to Illinois and settled in the little village of Washington, Tazewell county, but shortly afterward became residents of Bowling Green, Woodford county, where the father opened a store, hauling his goods mostly from Peoria, but also from Chicago. He was one of the very first merchants of the

county, and did a successful business until our subject was two years old, when he sold out and moved to a large farm, which at that time was all wild land and which he improved in a most creditable manner. His first home was an old log cabin. In his farming operations he also met with success and at one time owned a half-section of valuable land. When well advanced in years he retired from active labor and moved to Secor, where he died January 19, 1888. As one of the prominent and influential men of his community he was called upon to fill several important official positions, including a number of county offices, and also represented his district in the state legislature. He was rather independent in politics but usually supported the Democratic party. At an early day in Kentucky he united with the Christian church, and served as a minister of that denomination for several years, being one of the first in Woodford county. In that capacity he traveled all over the county by private conveyance; held services in houses, barns and groves, and organized a great many churches. He was also an elder of the church for many years, and when not engaged in farming devoted his time to church work. His estimable wife died in 1878. They had ten children who reached years of maturity, our subject being one of the younger.

During his boyhood Columbus A. Robeson attended the country schools near his boyhood home, and in 1861 entered Eureka College, but in February of the following year he left school and enlisted in Company E, Eleventh Illinois Cavalry, commanded by Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll. They did duty most of the time in western Tennessee and Mississippi, participating in the battles of Shiloh and Corinth besides many raids and skirmishes. After three years of arduous and faithful service Mr. Robeson was discharged at Memphis, February 2, 1865. He had spent two weeks at home in the summer of 1862, but with that exception was never off duty. On his return home he engaged in farming in Palestine township, making his home with his parents until his marriage.

On the 2d of January, 1868, Mr. Robeson led to the marriage altar Miss Susan F. Haynes, of Secor. Her father, R. F. Haynes, was born May 8, 1820, near Rochester, New York, where he grew to manhood, and after attaining his majority went to Hancock county, Illinois, where he married Theresa Bobbitt, a native of Kentucky, and a daughter of Isam Bobbitt, one of the pioneers of that county. Later Mr. Haynes moved to Pekin, this state, and from there went to California in 1849, spending three years on the Pacific slope. On his return to this state he settled in Marshall county, and in 1865 became a resident of Secor, Woodford county, but he is now living retired at Oak Hill, Peoria county. In early life he was a minister of the Predestinarian Baptist church, and still adheres to that faith. While a resident of Marshall county he filled the office of assessor and served as justice of the peace at Secor. His wife died in 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Robeson have three children: Jennie M., wife of A. M. Duncan, of Eureka, by whom she has two children, Ivan and Stella May; Edwin E., who was graduated from the law department of the Wesleyan University with the degree of LL. B.; and Elbert, a graduate of the high school of Eureka.

After his marriage Mr. Robeson continued to follow farming until 1886, five years of the time being spent in Marshall

county. The Democratic party has always found in him a stanch supporter of its principles, and in Woodford county he has been called upon to fill a number of different township offices. In November, 1894, he was elected county sheriff for a term of four years, and entered upon the duties of the office in December. During his incumbency the office was transferred from Metamora to the new court house at Eureka, and he became its first occupant. He had charge of several murder cases, took a number of prisoners to the penitentiary, and had good success in running down the criminal element. Since his retirement from office he has continued to make his home in Eureka, and in the spring of 1900 was elected assessor of Olio township, which includes the city of Eureka. His official duties have always been most conscientiously and faithfully performed, and have given the utmost satisfaction to all concerned. Fraternally Mr. Robeson is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, No. 794, of Palestine, and he attends and supports the Christian church, of which his wife is a member.

J. H. HUXTABLE.

The subject of this sketch, one of Benson's most esteemed citizens, was for many years prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Woodford county, but at present is not actively engaged in any business, but a good judge of human nature will observe under his habitual quiet and unassuming manner the reserve force which indicates both ability and energy.

Mr. Huxtable was born in Peoria county, Illinois, March 22, 1856, a son of James and Frances (Ridge) Huxtable, natives of England, who with their family of six children crossed the Atlantic in 1852, landing in New York. They located in Peoria county, Illinois, where the father followed farming, though in his native land he had worked at the miller's trade. After coming to Woodford county in 1880 he continued to engage in agricultural pursuits for some time in Greene township, but his last days were spent in retirement from active labor in the village of Benson, where he died September 11, 1894. His widow is still living and now makes her home with her children. Fifteen children were born to them, namely: William, a farmer, died at Flanagan, Illinois, in August, 1899; Richard is a farmer of Oklahoma; Grace, wife of Thomas Lee, died in Hoopeston, Illinois; Charity is the wife of John Bock, a painter of the same place; Elizabeth is a resident of Gilman, Illinois; Sarah is the wife of Simon Peterson, and they reside in Benson, Illinois; he is engaged in the brick and tile business, and also operates seven threshing machines; Phœbe is the wife of Peter Anderson, a farmer of Indiana; James is a grain buyer of Benson; J. H., our subject, is next in order of birth; Ida is the wife of A. S. Brubaker; Martha is the wife of Mayor Frank E. Learned, a prominent druggist of Benson; Nora is the wife of Andrew Younger, of Roseburg, Oregon; Thomas, who died at the age of thirty-three years, was a school teacher, and has served as county clerk and assessor; Morris is a farmer of Greene township, and Flora is the wife of U. B. Memmen, a grain dealer of Minonk, Illinois.

For several years J. H. Huxtable was successfully engaged in farming in Greene township, Woodford county, where he still owns a fine farm of one hundred and thirty-

J. H. HUXTABLE.

five acres, which he rents to G. Jeter, and has a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Dawson county, Nebraska, which he rents to J. G. Bock. He is also a stockholder in the Benson State Bank. He is enterprising and progressive, and has met with success in all his undertakings.

Mr. Huxtable has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Ida Menter, who died September 16, 1896, leaving two children: Theresa, a highly educated young lady, is a graduate of Wesleyan University at Bloomington. She is now doing missionary work in Brockton, Massachusetts, helping bring those into the church who have not been attending; and Lester, who is now attending the Benson schools. In 1897 Mr. Huxtable married Mrs. Maria Miller, a daughter of Jacob Ressler, of Berks county, Pennsylvania. Her father died in 1865, her mother in 1894. She has one sister still living, Mrs. Elizabeth Kline, of Berks county, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Huxtable's first husband was Jacob Miller, a successful farmer, who settled in Greene township, Woodford county, in 1856, and died in 1889, leaving considerable land and money to his widow. They had no children. She owns a fine residence on Front street, Benson, where she and her husband now reside.

As one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Greene township, Mr. Huxtable was called upon to fill several official positions, including that of collector, the duties of which he most faithfully and satisfactorily performed. He and his wife are among the leading members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of Benson, in which he has served as steward seven years, and as superintendent of the Sunday school seven years. Mrs. Huxtable is also an active church worker, and has served as stewardess. Politically our subject is a stanch Republican, as was also his father, and he gives his support to any enterprise which he believes will advance the moral, social or material welfare of his town and county.

A. W. HUFFMAN.

Among the leading and representative business men of the thriving little village of Panola must be numbered A. W. Huffman, of the firm of Schweizer & Huffman, who are successfully engaged in general merchandising at that place. He was born at West Salem, Edwards county, Illinois, August 21, 1867, and is a son of Andrew and Mary (Ground) Huffman, the former a native of West Virginia, the latter of Kentucky. The mother died in December, 1891, but the father is still living. He was born in 1821, and came west with his parents in 1831, but his father died when he was young. In early life he was engaged in building flatboats, and also ran them down the Mississippi river, carrying grain to New Orleans, but later in life devoted his energies to farming. At present, however, he is living a retired life in West Salem, Edwards county, Illinois. He served as county commissioner of that county for sixteen years, and has always taken a prominent and influential part in public affairs. The children born to himself and wife were: Francis, now a resident of Leeds, Kansas; Eliza and Martha A., both deceased; Marion, of Eaton Rapids, Michigan; Milton, deceased; Grant, of West Salem, Illinois, and A. W., our subject.

A. W. Huffman was reared in West Sa-

lem, and attended the public schools there for some time. Subsequently he was a student at Westfield College, Illinois, and the Valparaiso Normal School, Indiana, and when his education was completed he successfully engaged in teaching school in his native county for five years, from 1886 to 1891, and served as assistant postmaster at West Salem in 1892 and 1893. He next learned telegraphy, and was employed as operator and agent by the Illinois Central Railroad Company for six years, being stationed at Panola one year of this time. On leaving the employ of the road he embarked in his present business with Joseph B. Schweizer, and under the firm name of Schweizer & Huffman they are now doing a large and profitable business as general merchants of Panola. Mr. Huffman holds membership in the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a stanch supporter of the Republican party. He was married to Miss Olga Voigt, of West Salem, and to them have been born two children, Myrtle and Ruth.

WILLIAM M. MEEK.

Prominent among the business men of Eureka is William M. Meek, who for over forty years has been closely identified with the interests of the city, while his name is inseparably connected with its financial records. The banking interests are well represented in him, for he has served as vice-president of the State Bank since its establishment in 1895. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and as a financier ranks among the ablest.

Mr. Meek is a native of Woodford county, born in Cruger township, August 12, 1832, and is a representative of one of its most prominent pioneer families, his parents being Joseph and Euraney (Sutherland) Meek. The father was born in Kentucky, June 6, 1797, a son of Bazel Meek, who is mentioned more fully in the sketch of B. D. Meek on another page of this volume. There he was reared, and when a young man moved to Indiana, locating near Lawrenceburg, where he married Euraney Sutherland, who was born in North Carolina in 1800, a daughter of Berry Sutherland, from North Carolina. Mr. Meek followed farming in Indiana until the fall of 1830, when he came to Woodford county, Illinois, by wagon and purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land in Cruger township, a few acres of which had been broken and a log cabin erected theron. To the further improvement and cultivation of his place he at once turned his attention, and later added to it an eighty-acre tract, making a fine farm of two hundred and forty acres. Success attended his well-directed efforts, and he became one of the largest land owners of the county, having one thousand acres of valuable land near Eureka. At the time of the wildcat currency he kept out of all banking schemes and so lost nothing. He was one of the county commissioners when the first court house was built at Metamore, and with two others had charge of the work. He was also connected with the laying out of roads, building of bridges, etc., and took a very prominent part in the improvement of the county outside of the development of his own land. Politically he was always identified with the Democratic party, and religiously was in early life a Baptist, but there being but few of that denomination in his locality, he united with the Christian church on its organization, and did a large

part of the work in building the first church in addition to contributing liberally to the expense. He got out all the old style heavy timbers, and was noted for his fine and smooth hewing. In early days he took a load of wheat to Chicago, driving over poor roads and fording streams, and would bring back groceries and other household necessities. The Indians were still here, and one family in the neighborhood had to leave home until after the Black Hawk war, when the red men took up their abode on the other side of the Mississippi. The father of our subject died upon his farm June 1, 1890, lacking only five days of being ninety-three years of age. The mother died in 1848, leaving seven children who reached man and womanhood, our subject being the fifth in order of birth.

During his boyhood William M. Meek pursued his studies in an old log schoolhouse each winter for a short time, but as soon as the ground was fit to work in the spring would do his share of the plowing. By subsequent reading, however, he gained a good practical education and a broad knowledge of the present and past. He assisted his father on the home farm until twenty-one, and then started in life for himself as a farmer. After a serious illness, he came to Eureka in 1858, and in partnership with Colonel B. D. Meek, under the firm name of B. D. Meek & Company, engaged in the hardware and grocery business, having the entire management of the store for some years, and gaining a good practical knowledge of business affairs, which has been of great benefit to him in later years. Selling out in 1868, he returned to his father's farm, where he remained four years, and then followed the broker's business in Eureka for a time. He next bought a farm in Cruger township, which he greatly improved by the erection of good buildings, and which he successfully operated for twentytwo years. He still owns the place, but in 1893 he was seriously injured and again moved to the city.

While on the farm Mr. Meek had served as county treasurer. The previous officer had defaulted for forty thousand dollars, and the board of supervisors sent a committee to see if Mr. Meek would not accept the position. He at first refused, but at the following convention at Metamora, which he did not attend, he was nominated without his knowledge. He then accepted the office, though not wanting it on account of the high bond then required. There were three candidates in the field, and although the Greenback party carried off seven hundred of the votes, he was elected, and filled the office in a most creditable and satisfactory manner for three years, during which time he put the finances of the county in shape again. He refused a renomination and retired to private life. In 1895, when the State Bank was founded, he as one of the incorporators, a member of the first board of directors and the first vice-president. He held that office until January, 1900, when he was elected president, but not liking the position, he was again made vice-president, in which capacity he is now serving. The bank has a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, and is doing a very successful business. Besides his farm and his interest in the bank, Mr. Meek has owned a home in the city for some years.

Mr. Meek was married, April 25, 1861, to Miss Julia Jones, a daughter of Richard Jones, who came here from England. They have one child, Mary Della, at home. The family hold membership in the Christian

church, and Mr. Meek is also connected with W. C. Hobbs Lodge, F. & A. M. Politically he is a sound-money Democrat, and as a citizen takes an active and commendable interest in all enterprises tending to public development.

REV. ISADORE VEERKAMP.

In compiling the history of Minonk and Livingston county due mention should be made of the honored subject of this sketch, and of the flourishing work over which he presides. He has won a place in the hearts of his people, by his self-sacrificing labors on their behalf, and at the same time he enjoys the friendship of multitudes of the citizens of Minonk who are not identified with his flock.

His parents, George and Agnes (Linneman) Veerkamp, are natives of Hanover, Germany, and have been residents of Cincinnati, Ohio, for more than two-score years. The father came to this country, in 1857, and at once took up his residence in the city mentioned, where he pursued his trade as a carriage manufacturer. During the civil war he faithfully fought for the preservation of the Union, and served in the ranks for nearly four years. He was born in 1835, and was married in Cincinnati in March, 1860, to Miss Linneman, who is three years his junior. Both are members of the Catholic church, and are highly respected by a large circle of acquaintances.

One of nine children of his parents, and all of whom survive, the Rev. Isadore Veerkamp was born September 11, 1862, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He received a good education in St. Francis parochial school of that city, and in 1879 entered upon his theological studies at Oldenburg, Indiana. Thence he went to Louisville, Kentucky, and in 1887 finished his prescribed course of preparation for the ministry at St. Francis' College. In July of the year mentioned he was ordained to the priesthood in the Cincinnati Cathedral, by Archbishop Elder, and was assigned to the post of assistant pastor to Father David, in the Sacred Heart church in Detroit, Michigan. At the end of three years he became Father Raphael's assistant, in Hamilton, Ohio, and served faithfully for two years. Stricken with a severe attack of illness, which rendered an operation necessary, he then was sent to a hospital in Cincinnati, and, as he became convalescent, a change of climate was considered best for him. Therefore he was assigned to a pastorate in Sacred Heart church, in Emporia, Kansas, and labored there for two years.

Six years ago Father Veerkamp assumed the position he now holds, that of the spiritual head of St. Patrick's church, of Minonk, and, needless to say, his work here has been marked by gratifying success. A large and handsome church edifice had been constructed about a year prior to his arrival here, but it was encumbered with a debt, and thus, one of his first endeavors was to have this obligation discharged. With characteristic energy he took up the burden of labor resting upon his young shoulders, and though he has accomplished great things, it may be briefly summed up. Under the charge of the Sisters a parochial school was being conducted on the lower floor of the residence occupied by them, and thus both the pupils and their teachers were in crowded quarters. Father Veerkamp carried out a plan which he wisely formulated—the repairing and placing in good condition the old frame building formerly

used as the church, transforming it into well arranged and well lighted school rooms, and at the same time the Sisters' house was improved and repaired. At present the success of the school is beyond doubt, as nearly two hundred students are attending it, and are under the charge of three teachers. A fine pipe organ was purchased for the church at a cost of fifteen hundred dollars, and about nine hundred dollars was expended for statuary for the edifice, while fifteen hundred dollars were paid for the altars and electric lighting. Including the gallery, there are accommodations for upwards of fifteen hundred people in the church, and thus provisions have been made for an indefinite period. The children of the congregation have paid for a beautiful piece of statuary—"The Guardian Angel"—which stands in their play ground, adjoining the school. The property on which stands the church and other buildings comprises two acres, situated on an eminence in the town, and under the able supervision of Brother Rayder, who has charge of the gardens and management of Father Veerkamp's house, the lawns, flower beds and walks are kept in fine condition.

As a large percentage of the congregation of St. Patrick's church was Polish, it was deemed best that those desiring to have services in their native tongue should withdraw and have a separate church, and in January, 1900, this plan was put into effect. Having purchased the old Methodist church building, these Polish members had it moved to land which they had purchased, and they now have a priest, a school and are doing well. About fifty of the Polish families remained with the mother church, for the matter was entirely optional. The people have been worthy of praise, for they have themselves raised the bulk of the money invested in the church property here, and the general public has not been called upon to contribute even by patronizing a bazaar.

Undoubtedly Father Veerkamp deserves unstinted commendation for his disinterested work in this parish, and few, indeed, are better loved and revered. He possesses an excellent education and is qualified to meet the needs of all his flock, wheher of high or low degree, whether scholarly or unlettered. His assistant priest is Father Bertrand, a native of Bohemia, and educated in Cincinnati, Ohio.

JAMES N. FISHER.

Prominent among the leading and energetic business men of Roanoke is the subject of this review, a well-known lumber dealer, who has been actively identified with the business interests of the village for twenty years. A native of Virginia, he was born in Rockingham county, June 11, 1847, and is a son of John and Mary (Long) Fisher, who spent their entire lives in the Old Dominion. The father, who was a cabinet-maker by trade, died at his old home in Viginia, in 1896, at the age of eighty years, the mother in 1898, at the age of seventy-eight. They were the parents of eleven children, four of whom died in childhood. Those who reached maturity were: Carrie, wife of Hiram Beard, of Virginia; James N., our subject; Jacob, a resident of Virginia; Retta, deceased wife of James Hiner, of the same state; Lucian, also a resident of Virginia; Lucy, wife of Calvin Henton, of that state; Dora, wife of Thomas Messic, of Rockingham county, Virginia. Lucian and Jacob both came to Illinois, but

after spending a few years in this state returned to Virginia. The parents were members and active workers in the Presbyterian church, and were most estimable people. The first of the family to come to America was our subject's great-great-grandfather, Abraham Fisher, a native of Germany, who crossed the Atlantic at the age of eighteen years and settled in Virginia, where the family have since flourished. He aided the colonies in achieving their independence in the Revolutionary war, and his son John was a soldier of the war of 1812, while our subject's father served in the Confederate army during the civil war.

James N. Fisher was educated in the common schools of his native state. A Virginian by birth and training, he entered the Confederate army at the age of seventeen years, enlisting June 11, 1864, in the Augusta Reserves. He remained in the service until hostilities ceased, and participated in the battles of Piedmont and Waynesboro. He also did guard duty at Libby prison for a time.

At the close of the war Mr. Fisher returned to Virginia and learned the cabinetmaker's trade, at which he worked for six years, and then took up carpentering, which he continued to follow during his residence in his native state, and also after coming to Illinois. He was married November 8, 1871, to Miss Signora Reynolds, who was born in 1846, in Virginia, where her parents, now well advanced in years, are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher have three children: Orin N., aged twenty-two years, is a graduate of the Roanoke schools, and is now assisting his father in business; Gertrude G., aged nineteen, is also a graduate of the home school; and Frank R., aged thirteen, is still in school.

In 1874 Mr. Fisher first came to Roanoke, Illinois, where he was engaged in contracting and building for five years, and then went farther west, but not finding a more suitable location, he returned to Roanoke in 1885, and has since made this place his home. He continued business as a contractor and builder until 1897, when he turned his attention to the lumber trade, erecting sheds upon his property and putting in a large stock of lumber and building material. He is still successfully engaged in contracting, and as a lumber dealer has built up an excellent trade. In his building operations he formed a partnership with E. M. De Bruler in 1885, and that connection continued until 1894, since which time Mr. Fisher has been alone in business.

He is public-spirited and thoroughly interested in whatever tends to promote the moral, intellectual and material welfare of his adopted county, and though not a member of any religious denomination, he gives to the support of all. His wife holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. As one of the leading and influential citizens of the town, he has taken a prominent part in public affairs; served as village treasurer two years, and in 1900 was elected township collector, which office he is now acceptably filling.

FRED S. HORNEMAN.

Fred S. Horneman, formerly numbered among the progressive and successful merchants of Minonk, of which city his son, Fred W. Horneman, is the present popular mayor, is eminently worthy of an honored place in its history, as for three decades he

has been identified with its development. He was known far and wide as one of the founders of Minonk's prosperity, for his influence ever was cast on the side of progress, the good and the true.

Born in Wurtemberg, Germany, October 1, 1836, F. S. Horneman was deprived of a father's love and care when he was about a year old, as the senior's career was untimely ended by death. The mother survived until 1862, when she was in her sixty-eighth year. Both were members of the Lutheran church and were highly esteemed in their community. Their son John departed this life in Germany three years ago, when he was sixty-three years of age. Sophia, the eldest surviving member of the family, now seventy-two years old, resides in Wurtemberg, and for fifteen years has been a widow. Mrs. Minnie Sahaas, another sister, died in Germany, and her husband also has passed away.

In his youth Fred S. Horneman received a good education in the government schools of his native land, and there formed the excellent habits of industry and perseverance for which he was noted. He also was trained to have only high principles of conduct, and throughout his life he was honorable, just and exemplary in every particular. One of the most important events in his career was his marriage, in 1863, to Dorothy Spohn, daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Weada) Spohn. The father had died about a twelfthmonth before, when sixty-two years of age, and the mother, who attained her seventy-fourth year, came to the United States, to be near her only child, Mrs. Horneman, and was called to the silent land in 1878.

With his family the subject of this article emigrated to America in 1869, arriving on these hospitable shores on the 14th of June. They came immediately to Minonk, where they dwelt from that day until the present time. For some fourteen years the father was employed by the grain merchant, George Warren, who then sold out and removed to Nebraska. Mr. Horneman, who had carefully husbanded his resources, awaiting a favorable opportunity for investment, then became the purchaser of the elevator, and for the ensuing sixteen years carried on the business successfully. Then, owing to poor health and his years, he concluded to dispose of the elevator, and in July, 1899, the property was sold.

The death of Mr. Horneman occurred January 6, 1900, and this entire community have deeply mourned his loss, feeling that his place cannot be filled. To his children he leaves an unblemished name and record of which they have reason to be proud. His friends were legion, and every one who had business dealings with him had naught but words of praise for this sterling citizen. He was not a politician in any sense of the word, but kept thoroughly posted on national issues, and in accordance with his sincere views as to the best policy for the land of his adoption, he cast his influence on the side of the Republican party. With his estimable wife he held membership in the Evangelical Lutheran church, and contributed liberally to religious and philanthropic enterprises.

Of the nine children born to Mr. and Mrs. Horneman two died in Germany, namely: Mary J., at the age of seven months, and Charlie A., when eight days old. Fred, the oldest surviving member of the family, and the present efficient mayor of Minonk, was two and a half years old when he was brought to America. He chose Anna

Durre for a wife, and their children are three in number, namely: Laura, Dora and Fred. Annie, wife of Ed Slemmer, and mother of one child, Francis, is the fourth in order of birth in our subject's family. John, who died in 1898, was in his twenty-fifth year. He was a great favorite with the young and old, and was a promising business man. His untimely death cast great gloom throughout this community, where he was so well known and universally liked. Wilhelmina is the next in order of birth, and the younger children are Charlie (the second of the name), Elizabeth, who is attending college at Dixon, Illinois, and Robert, who is a member of the Minonk class of 1900.

NAPOLEON B. CRAWFORD, M. D.

Napoleon B. Crawford, M. D., of Eureka, Illinois, with two exceptions, has been in active practice for a longer period of time than any physician in Woodford county. He is a native of the state and was born on Crawford's Prairie, Franklin county, September 1, 1839, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Randolph) Crawford, the former a native of Virginia, born about 1787, and the latter of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, born in 1808. She was a daughter of John Randolph, of Virginia, and a descendant of Peyton Randolph, a well-known historical character of Virginia.

The paternal grandfather of Dr. Crawford was born in the north of Ireland, of Scotch ancestry. When a young man he came to this country and settled in Virginia, where he married Miss Smith, an English lady who came over in the same vessel with him, and they made their home in Virginia during the remainder of their lives.

John Crawford grew to manhood in his native county, and there engaged in teaching, while probably assisting in farm work. In 1811 he came to the territory of Illinois, and secured a large tract of land in Franklin county, the prairie on which it was located being named in his honor, from the fact of his being the first white settler in that locality. The tract was improved by him, and for some years he engaged in farming in connection with teaching. He was one of the very first teachers, and it is supposed that he taught the very first school in Franklin county. His marriage was solemnized at the home of the bride in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. On the organization of Franklin county he was elected its first sheriff, and filled the office acceptably to the people. He also served in various offices, and was a well-known, popular and influential citizen. During the Indian war, in 1832, known as the Black Hawk war, he was among those who volunteered to drive back that wily chief and his warriors. In politics he was a Democrat. His wife was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were spent in his native county. Left an orphan at the tender age of seven years, he was bound out to serve until twenty years of age. The man to whom he was bound was by occupation a farmer, and he continued with him, working on the farm, until the expiration of the time named, in the meantime securing what education was possible in the schools of the county. After reaching his twentieth year he determined to secure a better education, and for a time attended school and engaged in teaching alternately.

Having decided upon medicine as his

profession, our subject read with Dr. M. M. Goodman, of Jonesboro, Illinois, and later attended lectures in the Bellevue Medical College, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1864. He then located for practice in Eureka, Woodford county, where he has since continued to reside. While Eureka at that time was a very small place, it was not long before his skill as a physician and surgeon became known throughout Woodford and adjoining counties, and professional calls were made by him in McLean, Livingston, Marshall and Tazewell counties, as well as in his adopted county. His practice soon became very extensive, and has been retained in the years following. In more recent years he has had a large practice in consultation with other physicians, and also in the more delicate cases of surgery. He was one of the organizers of the Woodford County Medical Society, and was its president for two years. He is now a member of the American Medical Association, the State Medical Society, and the Mississippi Valley Medical Society, in each of which he has read valuable papers and has exerted a good influence.

The Doctor has always taken special interest in educational matters, and for about thirty years has been one of the trustees of Eureka College, and for the past three years was president of its board, which office he still holds. During the time in which he has served all the buildings of the college have been erected, with the exception of the original building. Much of his time and thought have been given to the college, in order to enhance its usefulness, and he has been a liberal contributor to the support of the institution.

On the 11th of October, 1864, Dr. Crawford was united in marriage with Miss Sarah J. Davidson, of Eureka, and daughter of Caleb Davidson, one of the earliest settlers of Walnut Grove, by which name the city of Eureka was originally known. He located there in 1833, coming with his family from Kentucky. By occupation he was a farmer and stock raiser, and for years he was one of the most prominent men in the community.

Mrs. Crawford is a well-educated lady and is a graduate of Eureka College. For many years she has been very active in church, Sunday school and college work, and devotes much of her time, thought and best energies to their advancement. She is president of the Ladies' College Aid Association, organized for the purpose of rendering aid to the various college enterprises of the Christian church in Illinois, and which is giving special attention to Eureka College, in order to place it on a firm financial footing. For fifteen years she has been treasurer of the Illinois Christian Women's Board of Missions, and has been exceedingly helpful in that organization. Few women are better known throughout the state, especially among the members of the Christian church.

Fraternally Dr. Crawford is a Mason in high standing, holding membership with the William C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, A. F. & A. M., of Eureka, serving as worshipful master a period of seven years; of Washington Chapter, Washington, Illinois; and Peoria Commandery, of Peoria, Illinois. He is also a member of Mahomet Temple, Mystic Shrine, of Peoria. He has often represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of the state, and has a wide acquaintance in Masonic circles throughout the state. Religiously he is identified with the Christian church, having been a member of the Eureka

church for many years, and serving as one of its elders.

No man in Woodford county is better known or has more stanch friends than Dr. Crawford. For thirty-six years he has ministered to the physical wants of the people, and there are comparatively few homes in Eureka and vicinity in which he has not been called in a professional way. Financially he has been prosperous, and he is now one of the most prominent real estate owners in the county. Socially he is held in the highest esteem, and the same can be said of Mrs. Crawford. Their friends are numerous throughout the state, and their interest in education, in morals, and in Christian work has been demonstrated over and over again. Surely the life of such should be an incentive to others, and their good deeds are certainly worthy of emulation.

J. E. ECKHART.

The subject of this sketch is a worthy representative of the business interests of Benson, Illinois, being at the head of the hardware and lumber trade of that village. He is a wide-awake, progressive business man, and although comparatively young, has already met with good success in his undertakings.

A native of Woodford county, Mr. Eckhart was born in Clayton township, May 5, 1868, and is a son of Adam and Anna (Roth) Eckhart. The father was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1840, the latter in Woodford county, Illinois, in 1849. They are the parents of ten children, of whom the eldest, a daughter, died in infancy; our subject is next in order of birth; Henry is now engaged in business in partnership with our subject; Mary is the wife of N. O. Tallyn, a farmer of Clayton township; Elizabeth died at the age of one year; Emma and Amelia are at home with their parents; Clara and Carrie were twins, the former of whom is at home, the latter deceased; and Edward is at home.

Our subject's paternal grandfather, Adam Eckhart, Sr., came to this country from Germany in 1832, and located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he followed blacksmithing for a time, but in 1841 sailed down the Ohio and up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Tazewell county, Illinois, where he settled, purchasing land in Fond du Lac township. At that time he could have bought land just as cheap in Peoria, where the court house now stands. He continued to make his home in Tazewell county throughout life. There our subject's father was reared and educated, and after reaching manhood followed farming there until 1863, when he came to Woodford county and bought eighty acres of land in Clayton township, to which he subsequently added. He is now living a retired life in Benson, enjoying a well earned rest.

The early education of J. E. Eckhart was acquired in the district schools of Clayton township, and he later attended Dixon College. After leaving school he assisted in the work of the home farm until twenty-three years of age, when he came to Benson and purchased a half-interest in the hardware and implement business of A. M. Smith. A year later he became sole owner, and was alone in business for six years, but in 1899 he admitted his brother, Henry A., to a partnership. The same year they bought the lumber yard of Memman Huxtable, and have since carried it on in connection with their other business. By fair and honorable dealing they have gained the pub-

lic confidence and have secured an excellent trade, which is constantly increasing.

Mr. Eckhart was married, January 5, 1893, to Miss Emma Brubaker, who was born in Woodford county, in 1872, and is one of a family of six children. Her father, A. H. Brubaker, is a native of Pennsylvania and a representative of an old colonial family. (See sketch of A. H. Brubaker.) From the age of twenty-one he was engaged in the lumber and stock business, and also conducted a general store for some time, but is now living retired in Benson. He has always taken an active interest in public affairs, and represented his district in the state legislature one term. Mr. and Mrs. Eckhart have three children: Ila M., born May 1, 1894; Eldon M., born August 9, 1896; and Gladys O., born January 25, 1899.

Mr. Eckhart is a member of Columbia Camp, No. 1836, M. W. A., of which he is advisor, and his wife holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church of Benson. In his political views he is a stanch Republican, and since attaining his majority has been a delegate to several county conventions of his party, but at local elections he votes for the man whom he believes best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party lines. He served as town clerk from 1893 to 1898, and proved a most efficient officer. As a business man and citizen he is always ready to discharge any duty that devolves upon him.

DAVID GRAFFT.

This well-known retired farmer and honored veteran of the civil war, now residing in Eureka, was born in Eaton, Preble county, Ohio, August 6, 1829, and is a son of David and Nancy (Grove) Grafft, who were natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia respectively and were married in the former state. The father was born in Lancaster county of German ancestry, and soon after his marriage moved to Preble county, Ohio, where in the midst of the forest he cleared and improved a farm of over four hundred acres. There he died at the age of sixty-five years, his wife at the age of fifty-two years. They were people of prominence in their community, and were held in high regard wherever known.

In early life our subject attended school for only a short time during the winter months, but by subsequent reading and observation he has gained a good practical education. On leaving home at the age of twenty-two years, he came to Woodford county, Illinois, in 1850, and first located at Walnut Grove, where he worked as a farm hand one year for eleven dollars per month. During his second year he operated rented land, and then, having saved his money, he bought two hundred and eighty acres of land in El Paso township. September 30, 1852, he married Miss Diana Grove, of Woodford county, a native of Virginia, and a daughter of Abraham Grove, who came here at a very early day and engaged in farming just south of Eureka, in Olio township. He was a member of the Presbyterian church, and a highly respected man. Mr. and Mrs. Grafft are the parents of three living children, namely: William, a resident of McLean county, Illinois, married Louisa Ulrich and has three children, Bessie, Edna and Mamie. John Joseph, now on the home farm, married Lena Fitchhorn and has three children, Daniel Guy, Mary Pearl and Joseph. David E. resides in El Paso. Mary

Ellen married Peter A. Ulrich, of Bloomington, where she died in 1894, leaving two children, Gracie, now living with our subject, and Ira D., who lives with his uncle.

After his marriage Mr. Grafft rented his father-in-law's farm for a year, and then sold his first purchase of two hundred and eighty acres of land and moved to Livingston county, buying a farm of four hundred acres in Nebraska township, which he broke and improved with good buildings. While residing there he entered the Union army, leaving his wife and three children to carry on the farm. In 1862 he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, and with his command participated the battle of Resaca, the Atlanta campaign and the march to the sea. They next marched through the Carolinas and Virginia to Washington, D. C., where they took part in the grand review, and by rail proceeded to Chicago in cattle cars, which to them was much better than walking. Mr. Grafft was never off duty during his entire three years, and was finally mustered out at Chicago with the rank of sergeant. Returning to his home in June, 1865, he resumed farming, and continued the cultivation of his farm in Livingston county for several years. He finally sold that place and bought a farm of two hundred and twenty acres in Olio township, Woodford county, which he tiled and greatly improved, making it one of the best farms of the locality. In his life work he met with most excellent success, and having acquired a comfortable competence he moved to Eureka, in 1899, and is now living retired, enjoying the fruits of former toil.

In his political views Mr. Grafft is a stanch Republican, but has never been an aspirant, though he has taken an active interest in public affairs. He is one of the old and in the battle of Resaca, the Atlanta campaign honored members of Dan Miles Post, G. A. R., of Eureka, and is held in the highest respect and esteem by all who know him. Mrs. Grafft is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

F. J. TUCKER.

F. J. Tucker, though his residence in the United States dates back only to July, 1889, has won a place of honor and respect in the business and social world of Minonk. His success is due no less to his sterling integrity of word and deed than to his strict attention to business and desire to satisfy his customers.

Mr. Tucker doubtless inherited his strength of character and loyalty to duty from his worthy parents, William and Harriet (Thomas) Tucker, who trained their children in the love of God and their fellow men. They dwelt in England, their native land, until August, 1892, when they came to Minonk. The father was employed as manager or overseer of a number of laborers on a large farm in England. About five years subsequent to his arrival in Illinois he was summoned to his eternal rest, his death occurring May 3, 1897, when he was in his sixty-fourth year. He is survived by his wife, who is sixty-five years old and is still numbered among the citizens of Minonk. The father was a member of the Plymouth Brethren church, and several of their children also have been identified with the congregation.

F. J. Tucker, born in Devonshire, England, May 1, 1864, is the fourth in order of

birth of eleven children. Until he was fifteen years old he remained on a farm in Devonshire, and then he commenced learning the trade of a carpenter, receiving only his board for three years. Ever since that time he has industriously devoted his time to his chosen line of employment and has justly earned his reputation as a man of marked ability. In July, 1889, he came to Minonk, where he speedily obtained plenty of work, and year by year he has increased his popularity as a builder and contractor.

He has taken contracts throughout this locality and specimens of his handiwork may be seen all over this county within a radius of twenty miles or more, and in addition to this he has been employed on contracts in northwestern Iowa. His specialty has been large public buildings and fine residences, and thus many structures which he has erected stand as monuments to his enterprise.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Eva Perryman was solemnized in England May 1, 1886. Of the seven children born to them only three survive: Willie, Eva Eunice and Lois A. The first-born, Lucy, and George and John died in infancy. The wife and mother was summoned to the silent land in 1897, when she was in her thirty-eighth year. On the 9th of February, 1898, Mr. Tucker wedded Dora Ruestman, of this county, a lady of good education and social attainments.

Fraternally Mr. Tucker is a member of Minonk Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M., and at present is serving as chaplain. He also has taken the Royal Arch degree and is identified with Rutland Chapter, No. 212. Like so many of his parental family, he is a member of the Plymouth Brethren church, and is liberal in the support of worthy religious and benevolent enterprises. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker are also active members of the order of the Eastern Star, of which she holds the office of assistant conductress, while Mr. Tucker is chaplain.

HARLEY A. ZINSER, M. D.

Dr. Harley A. Zinser, a prominent and successful physician of Roanoke, was born in Washington, Illinois, August 6, 1871, and is a son of Israel and Martha (Tobias) Zinser, natives of Ohio, who came to this state in early life and were married in Plainfield. The father was one of the first business men of Washington, where he has conducted a store since 1865, carrying a line of drugs, jewelry and sundries. He has built up a large trade and is doing a successful business. In politics he is a Republican and for some years has been an official member of the town board. Both he and his wife are prominent workers in the Methodist Episcopal church and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them. Their children are as follows: Elmer F., aged thirty-one, is a traveling salesman for a Chicago drug house; Harley A. is next in order of birth; Roy K., aged twenty-one, is preparing to enter the legal profession; Ada M., aged nineteen, is the wife of Elmer Kern, a coal merchant of Washington; and Rolla T., aged twelve, and Steele L., aged eight, are both at home. The older children are all graduates of the Washington high school.

After completing the course in that institution Dr. Zinser took up the study of medicine, and in the fall of 1892 entered Rush Medical College, Chicago, where he was a student for three years and was grad-

uated in the class of 1895. The following summer he spent in Washington, and in September opened an office at Buckley, Illinois, but in May, 1896, moved to Roanoke, where he purchased property and has since engaged in general practice. He began at the very bottem of the ladder and has built up a large practice, which extends throughout the surrounding country for eight miles in every direction. This necessitates much driving and in the winter time he keeps four horses that he may always respond to his country calls. He has a well equipped office and also owns a pleasant home in the village.

In November, 1896, Dr. Zinser was united in marriage with Miss Harriet E. Heiple, who was born in Washington, Illinois, in 1875. She is a member of the English Lutheran church of that place. In his political views the Doctor is a pronounced Republican. He is a Master Mason and a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 1206, of Roanoke, and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He is medical examiner for the last two fraternities, also for the Equitable Insurance Company, of New York, and other old line companies. He is a member of the North Central Medical Association of Illinois, and is a progressive member of his profession, who keeps abreast of the latest discoveries and theories made in the science of medicine and surgery. His ability is attested by the liberal patronage he enjoys, and he ranks as one of the leading physicians of the county.

WILLIAM PERRYMAN.

William Perryman, a prominent and successful contractor and builder of Minonk, possesses the esteem and confidence of its citizens. He sprang from the sturdy, industrious agricultural class of Devonshire, England, and has wrought out his own prosperity by attention to the stern demands of the business world. The merits of all work which he has undertaken is his chief advertising medium, and his customers, always satisfied, have strongly recommended him to others, and thus his name has become known far and wide.

A son of George and Elizabeth (Woolway) Perryman, natives of Devonshire, our subject was born on a farm, May 20, 1860. He was but ten years of age when death deprived him of his loving father, who was then in the prime of life forty-one years of age. He was a devout member of the Brethren church and to his children he left an untarnished name and record. His widow is yet living and is in her seventy-seventh year. She still makes her home in England, and is actively interested in the welfare of the denomination to which her husband had belonged. A woman of sterling qualities, beloved by all who know her, she nobly did her full duty by her family, and her children, indeed, "rise up and call her blessed." Emma, the eldest, is the wife of George Davy, who is engaged in the manufacture of pianos, in England. Thomas, the second child, also living in his native land, is an auctioneer, real estate and insurance man. George is a contractor and builder in England. Mary became the wife of William Labbett, formerly a blacksmith and manufacturer of implements, and now engaged in farming in England. Agnes is the wife of Frederick Lane, a sign painter, general contractor and decorator of the same country. Lucy wedded Thomas Avery, an Englishman, employed as a coachman. Eva, who married F. J. Tucker, is deceased. John is engaged

in farming, and Henry is a butcher in their native land. Elizabeth died in infancy, and Philip when in his fifth year. Philip, the second of the name, was accidentally killed by the discharge of a revolver which he was handling. This sad event occurred in 1878, when the lad, then in his fourteenth year, had just passed a preliminary examination, and was soon to enter the office of an attorney. Anna, the youngest of this large family, is the wife of Charles Russell, a builder and undertaker in England.

As previously stated, William Perryman was ten years old when he was left fatherless, but he continued to live on a farm until he was in his seventeenth year. He then commenced a three-years apprenticeship to the carpenter's trade, receiving only his board during that period. Then, for two years, when he was perfecting himself in all of the finer details of the business, in London, he was paid twelve cents an hour. In March, 1890, he crossed the Atlantic with the intention of casting his lot with the people of this republic. He came direct to Minonk, where he was employed for a twelvemonth by A. B. Kipp, and then he embarked in business for himself. For nine year he had been engaged in contracting and building, and for part of this time he was in partnership with F. J. Tucker, of this place. He now conducts all departments of his business, being his own architect, and drawing up plans and specifications. Many of the handsome residences and fine business blocks in the city and locality have been built under his supervision, and without exception his patrons express themselves as perfectly satisfied. He now finds his time fully occupied in executing the numerous structures which his contracts call for, and his outlook is one of promise.

On the 2d of April, 1888, Mr. Perryman was united in marriage to Ann Hill, daughter of John and Elizabeth Hill. Mrs. Perryman was born in England, and there obtained a good education. Six children have been born to this worthy couple, namely: George A., Lois Anna, Elmer W., Lawrence A., Bertha V. and Delbert William. Lois A., the elder daughter, died January, 1891, when but eleven days old.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Perryman have numerous and sincere friends in Minonk, and they are members of the Brethren church. He is not a politician in any sense, but strives to keep abreast of the times, and manifests his interest in the welfare of his adopted land.

E. L. FINCHAM, D. D. S.

Roanoke's popular and successful dentist was born in Towanda, McLean county, Illinois, September 20, 1873. His father, Matthew Fincham, was born in Culpeper county, Virginia, in 1844, and when only four years old was brought to this state by his father, Robert Fincham, who was also a native of Virginia, while the former was of Scotch-Irish descent and the latter of Pennsylvania Dutch extraction. They had a family of sixteen children. Robert Fincham was born in 1804 and is still living at the age of ninety-six years, his home being in Towanda. During his active business life he was a stock man. At first he owned and operated a ranch, but later gave his attention to buying and selling stock.

Matthew Fincham, the Doctor's father, was reared and educated in McLean county, Illinois, and was also engaged in stock raising and dealing during his business career,

but is now living a retired life in Towanda. He married Eliza Heller, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Elias and Eliza (Brandsteter) Heller. By this union were born eight children: Albert, a resident of Streator, Illinois; Everett, of Towanda; E. L., our subject; Lewis, of Streator; Maud, wife of a Mr. Gilbert, of Colfax, Illinois; Myrtle and Howard, both at home with their parents.

Dr. Fincham spent his boyhood and youth in his native town and was graduated from the public schools of that place in 1887. Later he attended Brown's Business College of Bloomington, and the Streator high school, and then entered the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, where he was graduated in 1899. Immediately after his graduation he opened an office in Roanoke, where his skill and ability have already won for him an extensive practice. He has gained the confidence and respect of his many patrons, and has made many friends since locating here. He is now the only dentist in the village. Socially he is quite prominent and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. The Doctor was married, April 16, 1896, to Miss Sadie Smith, of Streator, and to them has been born one child, Zelda.

HON. E. A. WILCOX, M. D.

Hon. E. A. Wilcox, M. D., the pioneer physician and surgeon of Minonk, and with one exception the first regularly established in practice in Woodford county, ranks high in his profession, and stands equally well in the councils of the Republican party. One having so deeply at heart the permanent welfare and prosperity of the county and state as he, and one who has so faithfully met every obligation resting upon him, deserves a place of honor in their archives.

Dr. Wilcox comes of old New England families, of English-Irish extraction, and for several generations they have been numbered among the prosperous, progressive, patriotic citizens of this great Republic. The paternal grandfather, Levi Wilcox, was a Connecticut farmer, and on his homestead, in the first year of the present century, his son and namesake was born. This child, as he matured, developed a decided taste for knowledge, and by his own study and application he qualified himself as a physician. Believing that the west offered a broader field for his talents, he went to Ohio at an early day, and for several years was one of the pioneer physicians of Tuscarawas county. About 1837 he came to Illinois, and thenceforth was a citizen of Lacon, becoming prominent in his chosen field of labor, and also winning distinction as a public official. He amassed a fortune of about ten thousand dollars—the result of his energy and sagacity in business and investments. When the dreaded scourge, cholera, swept over the country, he was one who fell a victim to the disease, his death occurring June 4, 1851. Politically he was a Whig, and was so popular with the people that they elected him to the responsible office of treasurer of Marshall county. He was faithful to every duty, and exemplified in his life the high principles of the Christian faith and the teachings of the Methodist church, of which he was a member.

Dr. Levi Wilcox chose for his wife Nancy Rogers, a native of Columbiana county, Ohio. She was a daughter of Alexander Rogers, and four of her seven brothers were

E. A. WILCOX.

physicians, namely: Dr. Thomas P., of Bloomington, Illinois; Dr. R. B., of Lacon, Illinois; Dr. David, of Missouri, and Dr. Alexander, of Ohio. John and Samuel were farmers of Marshall and Woodford counties, and George became a resident of Oregon. Mrs. Wilcox spent her last years at the home of her son, E. A., and departed this life, in March, 1888, when in her eighty-sixth year. She had given one of her brave sons to her country, and had reared all of her children in high principles of honor and patriotism. Alfred R., who held the rank of first lieutenant of Company D, Eleventh Regiment of Illinois Infantry, was mortally wounded at the battle of Fort Donelson, and being sent to the home of our subject, died a few weeks later, surrounded by his loved ones. Another son, Dr. Levi S., formerly internal revenue collector and one of the Illinois central committee, and resident of Champaign, Illinois, was appointed by the president to the United States consulship at Hankow, China, and as this place is in the heart of that empire, of late grave fears have been entertained for him and his wife, who accompanied him. His sisters, Sophronia and Cynthia, are deceased, while Elizabeth, widow of Henry C. Dent, is the postmistress of Marietta, Indian Territory. Sophronia was the wife of Ezra Warren, and died in Tiskilwa, Illinois, and Cynthia, wife of James D. Varna, died in Lacon, Illinois.

Born in Erie county, Pennsylvania, September 8, 1830, Dr. E. A. Wilcox spent eighteen months of his life there, and then came to Ohio, where he resided until eight years of age, when he came with his parents to Lacon, Illinois. It is not strange that he evinced a strong liking for the medical profession, in view of the fact that so many of his near relatives were associated with that class of workers, and, under the tutorship of his father and uncle, R. B. Rogers, the young man laid the foundations of his medical knowledge. In 1857 he was graduated in Rush Medical College, in Chicago, and, after practicing for a year in Lacon, Illinois, came to Minonk, where he steadily rose in his chosen calling. Not less has he succeeded as a financier and investor, for he has displayed rare sagacity in the disposal of his means. Today he owns one thousand acres of fine land in Illinois, and fourteen hundred acres situated in Nebraska and Texas. He is a member of the State Medical Association, and of the Woodford County Medical Society.

Called by the people of Minonk to the office of mayor, the Doctor served efficiently for three years in that capacity. For more than two-score years he has been one of the leading representatives of the Republican party in this county, and for twelve years was a member of the state central committee, and for about the same length of time served as chairman of the county central committee. Though this congressional district was strongly Democratic, he was elected to the senate in 1872, receiving an overwhelming majority—a fact which well attested to his popularity. He made an enviable record as a statesman, and for the four years of his term he labored earnestly for the welfare of his people. He was the author of the bill which relates to the regulation of our public institutions.

The first marriage of the Doctor was solemnized June 23, 1857, when Carrie, daughter of Caleb Mathis, became his bride. She was a native of Urbana, Ohio, and when she was in her forty-sixth year, on the 11th of March, 1877, she was summoned to the silent land. She was a member of the Meth-

odist church, and exemplified in her daily life the high principles by which she was actuated. On the 17th of July, 1878, Dr. Wilcox wedded Victoria Boyle, born in Putnam county, Illinois, April 29, 1853, and a daughter of David Boyle.

Seven children blessed the Doctor's first marriage: Elcie S., wife of William Haggard, a business man of La Porte, Indiana, has three children, Elcie, who is a musician of considerable ability; Ethel and Howard. Carrie E., wife of H. C. Forney, of Minonk, has two children, Samuel and Ellen. Alfred R., a graduate of the Chicago Dental College, has been the postmaster of Minonk for the past three years. His wife bore the maiden name of Nellie Hogan. Dr. Fred W., a graduate of Rush Medical College, and now a practitioner of this place, married Minnie Davidson, and their children are George and Rachel. He was an alternate to the Republican national convention in 1900. Dr. Franklin T., who was graduated in Rush Medical College, is located in La Porte, Indiana. He chose for a wife Helen Byers, and two little sons bless their home, namely: Byers and Robert F. Hattie and Mattie, twins, after completing their education in Bloomington, Illinois, were employed in the Minonk postoffice for four years, and then went to Europe where they spent four months. Hattie later became the wife of Ulysses Grant Rithmiller, and her sister has been a successful teacher in the La Porte high school for the past five years. Five children were born to the second marriage of Dr. Wilcox, of whom Jessie Bernidine, born June 20, 1880, died April 16, 1881. Edna C. is attending the Northwestern University at Evanston. Brainard A. is attending the Minonk high school, as are Logan D. and Lottie B., twins.

HENRY A. MYERS.

Henry A. Myers, a retired farmer and for many years a minister of the gospel in the Methodist Protestant and United Brethren churches, now residing in Eureka, Illinois, was born in Union township, Licking county, Ohio, August 23, 1827. He is a son of Henry and Rebecca (Stone) Myers, the latter being a daughter of George Washington Stone, from Lost River, Virginia, where he was for many years an enterprising and prosperous farmer. He was a cousin of George Washington and his portrait bears a striking resemblance to him. Rebecca Stone was born and reared in Virginia, but in 1810 removed to Ohio, after the death of her father.

The Myers family are of German origin, the great-great-grandfather of our subject coming from Germany and settling in Little York, from which point the family widely scattered, descendants of which are found in many of the states of the Union. Theodore Myers, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Winchester, Virginia, and there spent his entire life. He served for three years in the Indian wars that followed the Revolutionary war. He became quite wealthy and sold his large farm near Little York, taking Continental money in payment. This so depreciated that he lost nearly all his fortune. He had purchased a tract of land where Pittsburg now stands, but the owner was killed before writings were drawn and so he held the money. His son, Henry Myers, was born near Winchester, Virginia, which was his home until his removal with his family, consisting of wife and three children, to Licking county, Ohio, in 1810. The country at that time was yet a wilderness, there being but six families of

white and mixed whites in the vicinity where he made settlement. Those next nearest were eighteen miles distant. While still engaged in clearing his farm of the heavy timber the second war with Great Britain was declared. With others, he formed a company, but it was not called into service until about the time peace was declared. When he landed in Licking county he had but two dollars and fifty cents, but he had strong arms and a fixed determination to succeed. His first purchase was of one hundred and sixty acres, but he was prospered, and later he bought one hundred and sixty acres for each of his four sons. To each of his six daughters he gave a sum of money. He was a man of great influence in the community in which he lived and filled nearly all the different township offices, but would accept nothing higher from the fact that he did not care to leave his family. In politics he was a Democrat until the party in its platform recognized the fugitive slave law, when he left it for good. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and for forty years was class leader and leader of the music in the congregation. His home was always the abiding place of the ministers of his church, and the first conference of his church held west of the Ohio river was in his house. He got out the logs and hewed them for the first church erected in his neighborhood, and later assisted in the erection of a larger and handsomer church edifice. The church with him was a joyful place, as it was God's house. He died when past eighty-four years of age of typhoid fever.

The subject of this sketch was the youngest of a family of ten children and reared on the farm he received his primary education in the pioneer log school house, with its open fire place stretching across the entire side of the room, and provided with slab benches. In this school house he was privileged to attend about three months in the winter. But he was never satisfied with the meager education there obtained, and as the opportunity was afforded him he purchased or borrowed books to read, especially those of a scientific nature. Later, at the age of thirty-five years, and having a family, he left his business and entered Granville College, that he might the better prepare himself for his life work. He there secured a good practical education and he has cause to be thankful for the time there spent.

Until eighteen years old Mr. Myers assisted his father in the cultivation of the home farm. His father then gave him its entire management, and although but a boy he showed good business ability and the farm had the best of care. On the 25th of December, 1849, he was united in marriage with Miss Lavina Schechter, of Union county, Ohio, daughter of Samuel Schechter, a native of Maryland of German ancestry, but an early settler of Ohio, where he engaged in farming. His wife was a native of Knox county, Ohio. By this union were born ten children, as follows: Theodosia, now Mrs. George Downs, of McLean county, Illinois; Sanford, of Milan, Illinois; Margaret, wife of Rev. W. S. Johnson, of Iowa; J. F., a practicing physician of Rock Island, Illinois; Otto, who died in childhood; Rose, now Mrs. J. W. Kershaw, of Paxton, Illinois; William, who died when two years old; Minnie, who died when twenty years old; Jennie, now Mrs. C. U. Fisher, her husband being a prominent cattle man of central Iowa; and Stanley, of Clinton, Illinois.

After his marriage Mr. Myers continued to manage the farm of his father, which had been increased to four hundred acres by subsequent purchase prior to 1860. In his farming operations he was very successful, giving special attention to the raising of sheep. Realizing in his own life the need of a good education, he took great interest in educational matters, and for some years was school trustee for the township in which he lived, one of the most important offices in the township. By his influence he secured many important changes in school government and had erected a fine school house in his neighborhood. With another wealthy farmer, he secured the services of a good teacher of vocal music, without cost to others, and the children of the district were taught to sing. This was recognized as a great benefit to the community. He organized the first Sunday school in the town of Luray and was its superintendent until his removal to Illinois. Church services were also introduced, Mr. Myers securing the aid of a Baptist minister for the purpose. From one of the worst neighborhoods in the county it soon became one of the best.

Believing that he could better his condition and be of greater service to the cause of his Master elsewhere, Mr. Myers decided to come to Illinois, and in 1864 he located near Bloomington, in Bloomington township, McLean county, where he purchased four hundred acres of land. As already stated, in his native state he was greatly interested in the sheep industry, and brought into his neighborhood some of the finest sheep to be had. In coming to Illinois he proposed to continue in that line and brought with him fourteen hundred and sixty head of fine sheep, starting into the wool and sheep business in an extensive way. In 1865 he traded his first purchase of land for a farm of five hundred and sixty acres in Old-town township, in the same county, on which had been erected some fine buildings. He then took in a partner in the business, but the partner did not long survive, and after his death Mr. Myers sold off fifteen hundred head of sheep, retaining only three hundred head of the choicest of the lot. He now gave special attention to the raising of corn and wheat, and for its greater productiveness he tiled the farm and put it into excellent shape. Trading this farm, he next bought one in Randolph Grove, McLean county, which he proceeded to tile, and on which he erected a fine residence and which remained his home for many years.

While residing in Ohio Mr. Myers united with the Baptist church and by that church was licensed to preach the gospel. On coming to Illinois, there being no Baptist church in the neighborhood of his residence, he united with the Methodist Protestant church, and by that body was ordained a minister of the gospel, and for some years was engaged in evangelical work during the winter months and for one year traveled in the interest of the church. On his removal to Randolph township he found no Methodist Protestant church, but secured the use of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, an edifice that had been erected during the war. He got out fuel, employed a sexton, and commenced to preach to the people. He soon organized a Methodist Protestant church and a Sunday school and built a house of worship. Later the Free Methodist and the Methodist Protestant churches were merged into one, causing some dissatisfaction. There being a United Brethren church near by, with his

family he united with it and preached for that body. Soon after, at Holder, he held a meeting, resulting in forty additions to the church, and a house of worship was purchased of the Methodist Episcopals.

As a member of the central Illinois conference of the United Brethren church, Mr. Myers introduced a resolution in that body for the admission of lay delegates. He was one of a committee of three who went to the national conference of his church held at Urbana, Ohio, that he might urge change in discipline, that members of the church might be permitted to become members of secret societies, a change that has since been made. At the national conference he was elected one of the vice-presidents of that body. For some twelve or fifteen years Mr. Myers was active in church affairs in the Methodist Protestant denomination, and was instrumental in bringing many into the church.

In temporal affairs Mr. Myers has been very successful. To his home farm in McLean county he added many acres and yet owns land in that county. Before coming to Eureka he went to the state of Washington for the benefit of his health, and was so delighted with the country that he thought seriously of making it his home, and decided to use his influence to secure the organization of a new county. He secured the co-operation of others and petitioned the legislature to lay out a new county, and it was so ordered, the new county taking the name of Douglas. The governor appointed three trustees, of which he was the chairman, to select a county seat and appoint the first officers of the county. This they proceeded to do and for the purpose visited all the available sites. His mileage on this work amounted to over six hundred dollars. The county seat is Waterville, built on Silver lake, a name given the body of water by Mr. Myers. There he took up a claim and built several houses. He also built some houses in Spokane Falls, but later sold his interests there.

In 1890 Mr. Myers moved to Eureka, Illinois, which has since been his home. After moving there, however, he visited Texas, and liking a location on the east shore of Trinity Bay he bought land and fitted up a farm for his youngest son. It is a beautiful place and he remained there for a time with his son. He also owns a farm on the west shore of the bay. In addition to the property already mentioned he owns some valuable property in Rock Island, Illinois, where he has a son living.

Mr. Myers has been a Master Mason for fifty years, being raised to that degree in Hebron Lodge, No. 63, in Ohio. He was dimitted from that lodge. He has always been more or less active in political affairs, as well as in everything that tends to the general welfare of humanity. As a farmer he has always been interested in that which has a tendency to enoble the life of the agriculturist. While in McLean county he was vice-president of the Farmers' Club and chaplain of the McLean County Grange, and was a grange lecturer. In politics he was first a Republican and by that party was once nominated for the office of sheriff of McLean county. Of late years he has been identified with the Prohibition party, believing as he does that the rum power is the worst foe of the people of this country. By that party he was nominated as a candidate for the state board of equalization and also for county judge of McLean county. He was elected president of the Eureka village board by unanimous vote, the only person that was ever so elected. During the

summer he was serving as president of the board he was solicited by the Prohibitionists of the district to make the race for congress, but on account of his age he declined the honor. He was a delegate to the national Prohibition convention in 1900, which assembled at Chicago, and assisted in the nomination of John G. Wooley for president. Since coming to Eureka he has united with the Christian church and is now serving as one of the elders of the Eureka church. He yet occasionally preaches the gospel, and while in Texas preached every Sunday. His heart is in the work and he is always willing to do all he can to advance the interests of the Master.

HOMER E. DARST.

Homer E. Darst, the efficient and popular postmaster of Eureka, Illinois, was born in Cedarville, Missouri, April 9, 1871. His father, Henry R. Darst, is a native of Ohio, born near Dayton, February 4, 1849, and is a son of John Darst, with whom he came to Woodford county, Illinois, during his boyhood. Here he grew to manhood on a farm and married Sue M. Payne, a native of Louisville, Kentucky, and daughter of Wesley Payne, who was one of the pioneers of this section and a farmer by occupation. The father of our subject served for three years as a member of the Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the civil war, being one of the youngest to enter the service from this locality. After his marriage he spent one year in farming in Missouri, but at the end of that time returned to Illinois, and has since engaged in farming in Woodford county, though he makes his home in Eureka. For a time he was interested in the butcher business, which he had previously followed in his earlier years. The Republican party has always found in him a stanch supporter of its principles, and both he and his wife are active members of the Christian church. In their family are five children, namely: Ora, Homer E., Myrtle, Pete and Irma.

Homer E. Darst received a good practical education in the public schools of Eureka, and also took a course in the bookkeeping department of Eureka College, where he spent one year. He was then employed as a bookkeeper and clerk by different firms in the city until appointed postmaster. He entered upon the duties of the office July 1, 1898, and has since filled the position with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the public. The business of the office has increased considerably during the time of his occupancy. Mr. Darst has always affiliated with the Republican party, has taken an active part in its work, and has served as a member of the township Republican committee. The year he attained his majority he was elected township collector, and held that office two terms. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias fraternity and quite popular in social circles.

LOUIS W. HARMS.

The village of Roanoke has a number of enterprising and progressive citizens who have met with marked success in their business undertakings, and have become leading men in the community. Among the number is Louis W. Harms, the well-known and popular cashier of the Farmers' Bank

He was born in Washington, Tazewell

county, Illinois, June 18, 1859, and is a son of Henry Harms, who was born in Aus Frieseland, Germany, in 1821, and on coming to this country, about 1848, took up his residence in Tazewell county, Illinois. The father was one of a family of three children. His sister died in Germany. His brother, Eilert Harms, is a well-known and prosperous farmer and stock raiser of Linn township, Woodford county. Henry Harms was a butcher by trade, and on first coming to America worked for Joseph Kelso, of Washington, Illinois, and after his marriage opened a shop of his own, successfully carrying on business there throughout the remainder of his life. He died in 1880, at the age of fifty-nine years. In 1858 he married Miss Catherine Denhart, a native of Hesse-Castle, Germany, and the fourth in order of birth in a family of seven children, the others being Lizzie, who was married in Illinois, and then returned to Germany to reside; Frederick and Conrad, both farmers living near Coffeyville, Kansas: Augusta, widow of William Witte and a resident of Washington, Illinois; Henry, who is connected with the bank at Washington conducted under the name of Henry Denhart & Company, and also with the bank at Roanoke; and Helen, wife of Adam Keihl, of Washington. To Mr. and Mrs. Harms were born four children, of whom Louis W. is the oldest; Lizzie is the wife of Charles Strathman, a druggist of Peoria, and they have one son, Charles D.; Catherine is a graduate of the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, and a teacher in the public schools of Washington, Illinois, where she lives with her mother; and Henry D. is now connected with our subject in the bank at Roanoke, but makes his home in Washington, and was formerly employed in the bank at that place for ten years. They have all received good common school educations. The mother is still living in Washington, and is an earnest member of the German Lutheran church, to which the father also belonged.

Louis W. Harms attended the public schools of his native place, and later was associated with his father in the butcher business until the latter's death, when the business was disposed of, and our subject embarked in the grocery trade, under the firm name of Rapp & Harms. This partnership continued until 1894, when he came to Roanoke and organized a bank, known as the Farmers Bank, of which he has been cashier ever since. He owns the lot and building where the bank is located, and in connection with his banking business is interested in real estate, handling Iowa and Indiana lands principally. He is a wide-awake and energetic business men, of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and in his undertakings has been remarkably successful.

On the 23d of December, 1879, Mr. Harms was united in marrige with Miss Ella Rapp, who was born in October, 1859, and is the youngest child of Ernest and Christina (Schmidt) Rapp, residents of Washington. Her brother Charles, who is engaged in the grocery business in that city, is married and has four daughters—Pearl, Mary, Bessie and Ruby. The other two children of the Rapp family died in infancy. To Mr. and Mrs. Harms have been born two children—Carrie M. and Ella F., both graduates of the Washington high school. The younger is now pursuing a four-years' course at the Ohio Wesleyan University, having won the scholarship at that institution, standing highest in a class of fourteen.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Harms are members

of the Presbyterian church, and the family occupies a position of prominence in social circles. In politics he is a Democrat and a supporter of sound money issues. While a resident of Washington he was a member of the township central committee a number of years, and was treasurer of the city one term, but he has never cared for political preferment, desiring rather to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests.

HON. ROBERT S. HESTER.

Only those lives are worthy of record that have been potential factors in the public progress in promoting the general welfare or advancing the educational or moral interests of the community. Robert S. Hester was ever faithful to his duties of citizenship, and by the successful conduct of his business interests not only promoted his individual success but also advanced the general prosperity. In his life span of seventy-five years he accomplished much, and left behind an honorable record well worthy of perpetuation.

Mr. Hester was born in Boone county, Kentucky, November 19, 1825, but when a boy moved to Ohio with his parents, John and Mary (Bennington) Hester. His father followed farming in Brown county, that state, where he died when his son was quite young. The mother was an active member of the Christian church and carefully reared her children. Robert received a good common school education. In 1847 he left his old home in Brown county, Ohio, and on horse-back rode to Marshall county, Illinois, where he bought land and successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits, becoming the owner of nine hundred acres of valuable land in Belle Plaine township, Marshall county, and in Woodford county. In connection with general farming he was largely interested in stock raising, and in all his undertakings met with marked success.

In 1857 Mr. Hester married Miss Lydia A. Davison, a native of New York, and daughter of John P. Davison, one of the early settlers of Woodford county, who died May 15, 1863, leaving one daughter, Affie Z., who makes her home in Los Angeles, California. He was again married, May 19, 1864, his second union being with Miss Nancy M. McKeever, a native of Perry county, Ohio, and a daughter of William and Susanna (Hollenbeck) McKeever, who moved from that county to Morgan county, the same state, and later came to Marshall county, Illinois, where the father engaged in farming for some years, but they spent their last years in Minonk, Woodford county, where both died. They, too, were earnest members of the Christian church and most estimable people. By his second marriage Mr. Hester had two children: Lincoln L., now living on the old home place, married Florence Griswold, and they have three children: Alvaretta Maurine, Edna Lela and Irma Dell. Cora V. is the wife of James N. Lester, pastor of the Christian church, at Belle Plaine, and they have two children: Hester Geraldine and Helen Valeria.

For some years prior to his death Mr. Hester retired from active business life and in 1894 built a beautiful residence in Eureka, where he made his home until his death. He died, however,, very suddenly in San Antonio, Texas, February 5, 1900, He had gone to that city in company with his wife to spend the winter, and had been there but a few days when he yielded up

R. S. HESTER.

MRS. R. S. HESTER.

his life without any warning to those near and dear to him. His mortal remains were brought back to his old home and buried in the Davison cemetery, south of Belle Plaine, Illinois.

After reaching manhood he took an active and prominent part in public affairs, and was elected to several official positions of honor and trust, the duties of which he most capably and satisfactorily performed. He served as road commissioner, justice of the peace and supervisor, and in 1860 was elected on the ticket with Lincoln to the office of sheriff of Marshall county, which he filled for one term. In 1882 he represented his district in the state legislature, and he was always found true to any trust reposed in him, either public or private. He was one of the leading members of the Belle Plaine Christian church, in which he served as elder for more than twenty years, and for many years was a trustee of Eureka College. Faithful to his church, to his country and to his friends, he was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He was ever a friend to the poor and needy, choosing rather to make the gifts without letting the right hand know what the left did, and it was only to those nearest to him who knew to what extent he gave of his means.

J. A. SIMPSON.

J. A. Simpson, a worthy representative of one of the pioneer families of Illinois, and in virtue of the prominent part which he has personally taken in public affairs, in days of peace as well as in time of war, is doubly entitled to honorable mention in the annals of this commonwealth. During the thirty-six years of his residence in Minonk he has been closely connected with the development and prosperity of the place, and in the capacity of mayor and councilman did much to prove his interest in the well-being of his fellow-citizens and the permanent welfare of the town.

In the early settlement of Ohio our subject's paternal grandfather became one of the frontiersmen who reclaimed that state from the wilderness. He was a native of Scotland, and his wife, a Pennsylvanian, was of German parentage. Their son, Harrison, father of J. A. Simpson, was born on the old homestead, and when he reached maturity he chose Maria Combs for a wife. She was born in Virginia, October 19, 1813, and now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Anna C. Hopwood, of Livingston county, Illinois. Though so advanced in years, she retains her faculties and her mind is clear and active. She accompanied her husband to Illinois fifty-two years ago, and, after living in Fulton county for two years, removed to Woodford county. There Mr. Simpson won the esteem and love of all who were associated with him, and for many years he served as supervisor, assessor or in other local offices of more or less responsibility. For more than three decades he was a deacon in the Baptist church, and was looked up to and regarded as one of the most exemplary citizens of his community. He died in Kaufman county, Texas, May 5, 1885, when in his sixty-third year. His eldest son, W. H. H., resides on a farm near Packwood, Iowa, with his wife, Caroline. George M., a grain merchant, is represented elsewhere in this work. Benjamin F., who was a leading lawyer of Mariette, Wisconsin, for years, is now engaged in practice in Chicago. Charles T. is engaged

in farming near Minonk. Wolsey C., who achieved distinction in this county as a lawyer and as a prosecuting attorney, died in Emporia, Kansas, in 1898, when fifty years of age. He was state's attorney in this county and in Lyons county, Kansas, for several terms, and won the praise of the legal profession and the general public for his efficiency and fidelity to his duties. His wife was Annetta L., daughter of Doctor Reed, pastor in the Baptist denomination, and at one time president of Shurtleff College. Anna C. Simpson wedded John Hopwood, a farmer of Livingston county, and Laura J. is the wife of E. A. Kipp, who is a lumber merchant, with his home in Evanston, Illinois.

J. A. Simpson was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, March 7, 1843, and resided upon a farm until he was about eighteen years of age. The youth then enlisted in the defense of the Union, becoming a private of Company I, Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and during the three years and two months of his service participated in the numerous engagements and campaigns in which his regiment won honors. Among the more notable battles were Island No. 10, Farmington, Mississippi, New Madrid, siege of Vicksburg and Jackson, Mississippi, Corinth, Holly Springs and Saline Cross-road. Until the fall of Vicksburg he was under the leadership of General Grant, and later, he accompanied General Banks on the Red River expedition. Considering his youth and arduous service in these hard-fought campaigns he made an excellent record and stood his hardships well. He was honorably discharged and mustered out at Springfield, in October, 1864.

For about a year subsequently he attended school, and then laid the foundations of business knowledge in a commercial college in Chicago. Returning home he then engaged in the grocery and dry goods business, at first being a member of the firm of Whitaker, Simpson & Son, and later of the firms of Simpson, Kidder & Company, and Simpson & Kidder. The business was sold at the death of Mr. Kidder, and July 1, 1887, our subject embarked on his own account in the buying and selling of grain at Minonk. From 1890 to 1896, when his partner died, he was a member of the firm of Simpson & Fehring, of Washburn, Illinois, and then for about four years he was asociated with Mr. Moschel, to whom he sold out the business in May, 1900. Five years before he joined F. N. Rood, of LaRose, Illinois, and since that time has been extensively engaged in banking at LaRose, also the grain, lumber, coal and building material business, and they own two elevators, situated on the Alton Railroad, and one on the Santa Fe Railroad at LaRose. In June, 1900, Mr. Simpson also entered into partnership with H. E. Mammen, at Mason, Illinois, at a point where the Santa Fe and Big Four Railroads cross, where they have an elevator. In all of these varied financial ventures, he has met with marked prosperity, and his ability and foresight are unquestioned.

Though his commercial alliances have been numerous and ofttimes with outside parties, Mr. Simpson has retained his own in Minonk, where he owns three elevators located on the Illinois Central, and carries on an extensive grain business. He also deals in seed and hard coal, and has been a leading factor in its onward march. For a score of years he has served on the board of education, and as an earnest member of the Presbyterian church, has especially had the interests of the Sunday schools at heart, and

has officiated as superintendent of his own church school. He takes an active interest in politics, and for four years was a valued worker in the Republican county central committee, with which party he has always affiliated.

The wife of Mr. Simpson's early manhood was Mary E., daughter of J. E. P. Bell, and a native of Illinois. She departed this life in February, 1871, and of her two children, John H. died at the age of seven years and seven months. Lena B., the daughter, is the wife of W. O. Whitney, a lumber merchant of Cherryvale, Kansas, and Helen and James Oscar. On the 1st of April, 1873, occurred the marriage of our subject and Mary B. Hudson, daughter of John and T. A. Hudson, of Whiteside county, Illinois. The first child born to J. A. Simpson and wife is Mary Elizabeth, who wedded F. N. Rood and resides at LaRose, Illinois. The sons, J. A., Jr., and Harry H., graduates of the Minonk high school, are youths of great promise, and this autumn they matriculate in college, where they will qualify themselves for useful careers.

JAMES T. WYATT, M. D.

The subject of this sketch, now a prominent physician of Eureka, was born in Delphi, Carroll county, Indiana, August 23, 1868, and is a son of Isaac C. and Matilda (Cook) Wyatt, also natives of that county. His paternal ancestors were from Scotland, and were among the earliest settlers of Virginia. His paternal grandfather, Isaac Newton Wyatt, was born in Pennsylvania, while the maternal grandfather, John W. Cook, was a native of New Hampshire. For many years the father was connected with the Monon route, as assistant superintendent of the bridge department. He died in Delphi, Indiana, November 22, 1899, at the age of sity years, his wife in 1874, at the age of about thirty years.

During his boyhood and youth Dr. Wyatt attended the common and high schools of his native place, and when his education was completed accepted a position as traveling salesman for a Peoria firm, his territory covering Illinois, Iowa, Indiana and Kentucky. He met with excellent success in that venture, and was connected with the same firm for eight years. In the meantime he took up the study of medicine and attended lectures two terms at the Marion Sims Medical College, St. Louis. On leaving the road permanently, in 1894 he again attended lectures at Marion Sims College of Medicine, and during the latter part of his stay there was assistant to the chair of opthalmology, which was held by Professor Carl Bark. He was graduated in 1896, and by a competitive examination received an appointment in Rebecca Hospital, at St. Louis, but seeing a good opening at Eureka, he came at once to this place and opened an office. He met with success from the start, and has succeeded in building up a large and lucrative practice, besides winning an enviable reputation in his chosen calling. Although engaged in general practice, he gives special attention to the diseases of the eye and ear; is a member of the Illinois Optical Society, the Peoria Medical Society, and the North Central Illinois Medical Society.

On the 13th of August, 1895, Dr. Wyatt was united in marriage with Miss Pearl Long, of Eureka, a daughter of Hardin Long. She was born in Cruger township,

Woodford county, and after graduating from the Washington, Illinois, high school, entered Eureka College, from which she was graduated in the class of '95. She is also a graduate of the musical department of the same college. Dr. and Mrs. Wyatt are members of the Christian church. He is also connected with the Knights of Pythias, in which he has served as chancellor; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekah Lodge; The Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan; the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Court of Honor. He is a charter member of the last named order, and also county chancellor for it. He is medical examiner for all the fraternal orders mentioned above and also for several old-line insurance companies. He has that love for and devotion to his profession which has brought to him success and won him a place among the ablest representatives of the medical fraternity in the county. He owns a good piece of property in the central part of the town, where he makes his home.

JOSEPH A. McGUIRE.

Gifts of money, if judiciously expended, may add to the beauty and attractive appearance of a town, but the real benefactors of a city are the men who add to its progress and prosperity through the establishment of enterprises which furnish employment to others and thus promote commercial activity. In Joseph A. McGuire we find one of the most prominent business men of Eureka, and his connection with the various business enterprises and industries has been of decided advantage to the community, promoting its material welfare in no uncertain manner.

A native of Illinois, Mr. McGuire was born near Belleville, St. Clair county, August 19, 1852, and is a son of Joseph D. and Catherine (Halbert) McGuire. The father was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, about 1817, and when a small boy moved with his family to St. Clair county, Illinois, where his parents died shortly afterward. There he grew to manhood and successfully engaged in farming, becoming owner of about four hundred acres of land, which he sold in 1855, on his removal to Macon county. Near Harristown he bought a tract of prairie land, and to its improvement and cultivation he devoted his energies until called from this life in April, 1893. During his later years he affiliated with the Republican party. He was one of the early members of the Christian church; took an active part in building the first church in Harristown, and served as deacon of the same for many years. He was upright and honorable in all things and his interest seemed centered in his church. His estimable wife, who was a member of the same church, died in 1896. She was born near Richmond, Virginia, and was quite young when her family came to St. Clair county, Illinois.

At the age of three years our subject accompanied his parents on their removal to Macon county, and he was educated in the common schools of Harristown and Eureka College. He assisted his father in the work of the home farm until twenty-three years of age, and then engaged in farming on his own account for two or three years. At the end of that time he bought a general store in Harristown, which he conducted for five years with good success, and then sold. Desiring a broader field of action, he came to Eureka in the fall of 1880, and embarked

in the grocery business, carrying it on very successfully up to the present time. About five years after locating here he purchased the store building he now occupies, it being a two-story-brick structure, 23½x75 feet, on College street opposite the court house. The main floor and basement are used by Mr. McGuire in his grocery business. No other grocery now doing business was here when he opened his store. He was alone for some years, but in 1886 admitted one of his former clerks, A. J. Mourer, as a partner, and the firm name became McGuire & Mourer, under which style business is still carried on. Mr. McGuire is also interested in the meat business, having established his brother in a market. He is connected with the Farmers' Bank, and has an interest in the firm of F. B. Stumpf & Company, the leading drug house in the city, he being the company. In connection with Lyon Karr and F. B. Stumpf he incorporated and organized the Eureka Telephone Exchange Company, which has put up many miles of wire, has sixty-six city subscribers, and about twenty country subscribers. It is the first and only telephone line in the city and has proven a successful venture. Besides the property already mentioned Mr. McGuire owns a fine residence in Eureka, and a place just outside the corporation limits.

On the 29th of December, 1882, Mr. McGuire married Miss Ada Hoshal, of Berlin, Sangamon county, Illinois, and to them have been born two children, Nellie and Joseph. The parents are active and prominent members of the Christian church, in which Mr. McGuire is serving as deacon. He has also been prominently identified with the affairs of Eureka College, having been a trustee of that institution for fourteen years, during which time Burgess Hall was erected. Politically he is a stanch Republican, and socially is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America; William C. Hobb Lodge, F. & A. M.; Tazewell Chapter, No. 199, R. A. M.! Couer de Leon Commandery, K. T., at El Paso, and Mohamet Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria. The record of Mr. McGuire is that of a man, who, by his own unaided efforts has worked his way upward to a position of affluence. His life has been one of industry and perseverance, and the systematic and honorable business methods he has followed have won him the confidence and respect of all. Without the aid of influence or wealth, he has risen to a position among the prominent business men of Eureka, and his native genius and acquired ability are stepping stones on which he mounted.

SAMUEL WYLIE.

Samuel Wylie, one of the early settlers of Illinois, has been a witness of remarkable changes for the better in what was a prairie or wilderness when he first beheld the country. He came here a young man, full of ambition and vigor, and with the characteristic energy of the New England "Yankees" soon acquired a fortune and nobly played the part of a patriotic citizen of his adopted state. No one, therefore, is more justly entitled to an honored place in the records of Illinois, and the many friends to whom he has endeared himself by a thousand acts of kindness, integrity and justice will take pleasure in perusing the story of his life.

He comes of good old Revolutionary stock, his paternal grandfather, Peter Wylie, having served for all of the seven long years of the terrible conflict between the colonies and the mother country. He was a sergeant

for some time, and often saw the great leader of the heroic forces, Washington. Two of Peter Wylie's sons, Peter, Jr., and Samuel, were soldiers in the war of 1812. A third son, Ephraim, the father of our subject, was a man of peace, utterly averse to warfare, in accordance with the principles of the Society of Friends, with which he was identified for years. He was a hard-working, just and highly respected farmer, and reared his children to take places of trust and esteem in the busy world. From New York, his native state, he removed to Vermont at the close of the eighteenth century, and there passed his remaining years. He was one of seven children—David, Peter, Samuel, Ephraim, Mrs. Polly Page, Mrs. Sarah W. Adam and Mrs. Hannah Goodrich. Beloved and mourned in the community where he had dwelt for more than two-score years, Ephraim Wylie passed away, in 1842, when he was in his fifty-fifth year. His wife, formerly Lucy Mason, a native of Massachusetts, survived him many years, her death occurring in 1867, when she was in her seventy-seventh year. Their eldest child, Wyram, lived to attain his seventy-fifth year, dying in 1896, and John departed this life in 1873, when fifty years of age. Angeline and James, twins, and Raymond died when young.

Samuel Wylie was born on the old Vermont homestead, in Orleans county, November 9, 1821, and for over twenty-four years he lived with his parents, becoming thoroughly conversant with agriculture, in all its departments. The desire to come to the west, to "grow up with the country," finally became his daily thought, and at the close of one of the long, severe New England winters he started toward the setting sun. Making his way to Buffalo, he there embarked on a ship bound for Chicago. The trip was made in eight days, but the accommodations of the vessel for passengers were so meager that he and some companions had to sleep on the heads of the salt barrels with which the boat was laden. Reaching the Chicago river dock, the young man walked to a block-house inn, where he obtained lodging for a day or two, while he explored the future city, then little better than a "mud-hole." With several young men, he started in a wagon on one of the old trails, which proved so muddy that it required their united efforts to lift the wagon out of the ruts, now and then. At Downer's Grove they passed the night on a hay-mow, the only available place, and then continued their journey towards La Salle. One of the party, a jolly doctor, remarked, as they passed a graveyard, "Boys, I guess I'll hang up my shingle here. I see, by the slabs, that some other doctor has been here before me." From La Salle to Peoria Mr. Wylie proceeded on a steamer, and finally, locating in Metamora, spent fifteen years in that place, engaged in carpentering work.

In 1854 our subject entered half a section of land adjoining Minonk, and this property, then entirely unimproved, has been in his possession ever since. He was the first person to break the prairie in the vicinity of the village, and he holds the palm of having been the first man that made any improvements in this township. His industry and good business ability brought golden returns to him, in the course of time, and today he is the owner of one thousand acres of splendid farm land, two hundred acres of this being situated in Lee county, and the balance of it in this county. The raising of cattle, hogs and horses added not a little to his income for years, and he found it profitable to feed live stock for the market.

For some time Mr. Wylie has leased his farms, receiving grain in payment, and thus he became connected with the business of dealing in corn, wheat and oats, with his home in the thriving town of Minonk, just a mile from his former residence on the farm which he purchased about half a century ago. He has not been an office-seeker, but served as assessor of his township, as he was called to do so, by his hosts of friends and neighbors. From the organization of the Republican party he has been an ardent adherent to its policy, and prior to the war he was one of the devoted friends of abolitionism and the "underground railway" system. In fact, he always has been the friend of the poor and down-trodden, and has found great happiness in lending a helping hand to his brother men, thus fulfilling one of the most sacred obligations of humanity.

For thirty-two years Mr. Wylie was blessed with the companionship of a devoted wife, whose maiden name was Catherine Davidson. Her parents, Emory and Nancy Davidson, were natives of the Green Mountain state, and Mrs. Wylie was born in Croftsbury, in 1818. She came to Illinois with her brother, Solomon, who gave his life for his country during the dark days of the civil war. Mrs. Wylie departed this life September 1, 1894, and is mourned by a multitude of sincere friends.

A. VON NORDHEIM.

This popular young business man of Minonk is not ashamed of the fact that he has risen from the working class, and by his own varied experience and the vicissitudes of life which befell his parents and ancestors, he undoubtedly is the better able to enter into the hearts of the people, and has deeper insight and sympathy with them in their struggle for a livelihood.

One of the youngest journalists in Woodford county, and certainly one of the youngest proprietors of a flourishing newspaper, our subject's history is of especial interest. He possesses the well known sterling qualities of the Germans and both of his parents are natives of the Fatherland. The father, Edward H. Von Nordheim, left Germany when he was a youth of sixteen, and, arriving in the United States poor and unfamiliar with the language and customs of the people, he was glad to procure almost any work whereby he might earn an honest dollar. At first he worked for farmers, but soon the mercantile instinct latent in him came to the surface and he was engaged in clerking for several years. In the meantime he thoroughly mastered the principles of business, and when a favorable opportunity presented itself he bought a stock of groceries and dry goods and embarked in the enterprise of managing a general store. When a number of years had rolled by he disposed of the business, from which he had made a goodly fortune, and with this capital he commenced dealing in real estate, also carrying on an insurance business in connection. He stands well in the estimation of the public and has frequently been honored with local positions of responsibility and trust. He has been city clerk and an active member of the board of education for several years. His marriage to Beka Schmidt took place in the United States, she having accompanied her parents to the new world a few years previously.

A. Von Nordheim, whose birth occurred in Minonk, October 11, 1877, is the next to

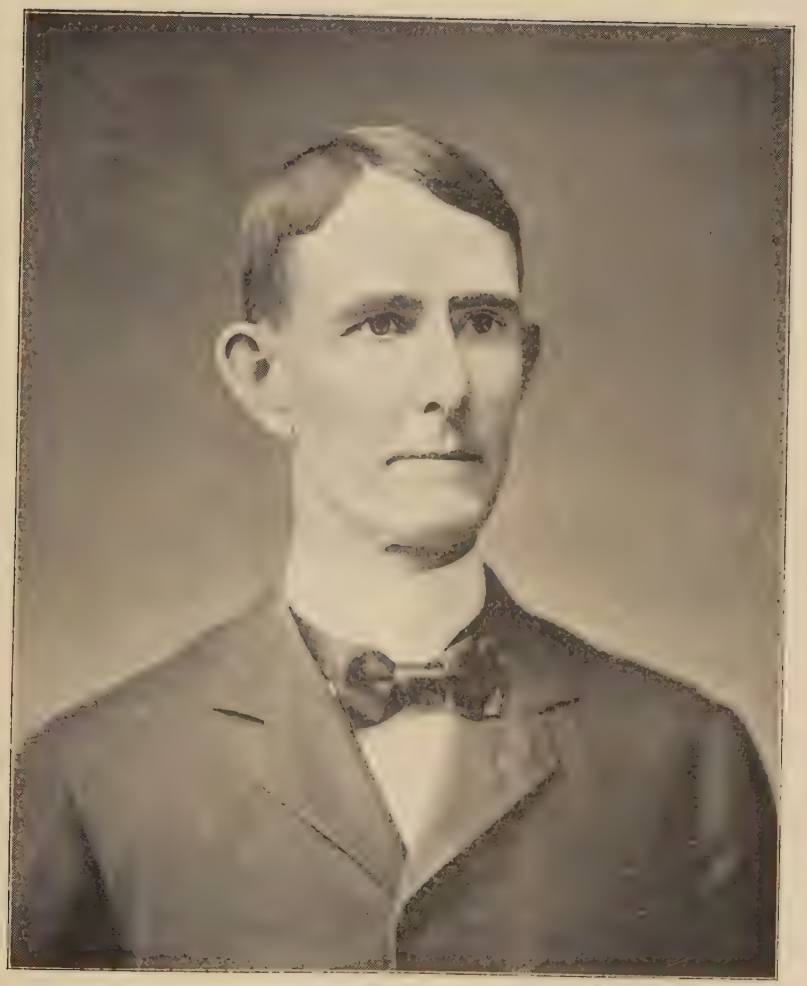
the youngest of five brothers and sisters. The eldest, John, who is a farmer of Clayton township, Livingston county, married Louise Meierhofer, and has one child. Flora, wife of John Grampp, manager of the Minonk electric plant, has one child, Alvina. Sena is the wife of Albert Meierhofer, a clothier. Anna is still attending school.

As his entire life has been spent in this city, our subject is thoroughly identified with its progress and no one is more concerned in its improvement and high standing. His education was obtained in the public schools, and when he had finished his studies he started upon his life work by obtaining a position in a printing office. Gradually he mastered the different departments of the business and thus thoroughly qualified himself for future responsibilities. In January, 1889, he dates his first experience in a printing office, and when, eleven years later, in February, 1898, he bought the "Register" and started on what has been termed the "thorny path of journalism" he was only a little more than twenty years of age. He possessed enthusiasm and ambition, however, and, better still, a knowledge of the practical part of the business that few young men of his age have as working capital. The paper is ably edited, is devoted chiefly to the interests of this immediate locality, and presents the news of the day and current events in a brief, breezy manner. The circulation is about one thousand at present, and everything promises that it has a greater future in store. The editor spares neither time, effort nor expense in making this a model paper. It is independent in politics, fearless in censuring wherever censure is needed, and equally ready to praise where praise is due. Thus it reflects in its columns the real opinions of its editor, in most instances, for he strives to present the truth, unbiased by obligations of any kind, save an innate love for justice.

On St. Valentine's day, 1900, Mr. Von Nordheim was united in marriage to Miss Mabel Kenyon, daughter of one of the highly honored citizens of this county—Ed Kenyon. She is the eldest of the four surviving children of that worthy gentleman, the others being named, respectively: Grace, Florence and Elmer. Mrs. Von Nordheim is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and her culture and social attainments make her a general favorite. Fraternally, our subject is connected with the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor.

LYON KARR.

Lyon Karr, the well-known and popular county treasurer of Woodford county, and also cashier of the State Bank at Eureka, is a native of Illinois, born at Heyworth, McLean county, December 29, 1861, and is a son of Henry A. and Martha (Storey) Karr, still prominent residents of that place. The father was born near Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, August 5, 1830, and traces his ancestry back to Sir Walter Kerr (as the name was then spelled), a native of Scotland and the founder of the family in America. He was one of the pioneers of New Jersey and the family became quite prominent in Sussex county, that state. There our subject's great-great-grandfather, Captain John Karr, an officer of the Revolutionary war, spent his entire life. The great-grandfather, Thomas Karr, was also a native of Sussex county, New Jersey, where the grandfather, Walter Karr, was born July 7,



LYON KARR.

1797. About 1817, the latter moved to Hamilton county, Ohio, where he married a second cousin, Eliza Karr, also a native of New Jersey. In 1834 they came to McLean county, Illinois, and spent the remainder of their lives at Heyworth, where the grandfather died in March, 1879, his wife in 1838.

Henry A. Karr, our subject's father, grew to manhood in McLean county, and was married in Heyworth, January 10, 1861, to Martha E. Storey, a native of Hamilton county, Illinois, and a daughter of Henry and Mary (Allen) Storey. Her father was from Georgia. To Mr. and Mrs. Karr were born four children: Lyon, our subject; Grant, who is now principal training teacher in the Oswego, New York, Normal School; Mary, a successful teacher of Chicago; and Frank, now a student at Leland Stanford University. Throughout life the father has devoted considerable attention to agricultural pursuits, and still owns a fine farm near Heyworth. He is a Jacksonian Democrat, and has taken a very active and prominent part in local politics. Fraternally he and his sons are members of the Masonic order, and religiously his wife is a member of the Presbyterian church.

In 1878 Lyon Karr was a member of the first class that graduated from the Heyworth public schools and then attended the normal school for two years, after which he successfully engaged in teaching in McLean county for three years, having charge first of the Hickory school near Leroy, and later the Pleasant Hill school in Lexington township. The following two years he again attended normal and was graduated in 1885. For three years he taught school at Loda, Iroquois county, and one year at Minonk, Woodford county. In 1889, while at the latter place, he was appointed by the board of supervisors to fill a vacancy in the office of county superintendent of schools, and the following year was elected to that position on the Democratic ticket for a term of four years. He filled the office in a most creditable and satisfactory manner, and during his term a uniform course of study for country schools was adopted, which was the greatest step in advancement that had been made for a number of years. In 1894 he was re-nominated, but was defeated on account of the county seat contest.

In 1895 Mr. Karr assisted in organizing the State Bank of Eureka, with a capital stock of thirty thousand dollars, and after serving as assistant cashier four years was made cashier, which office he now holds. The bank is doing a successful and constantly increasing business, and its deposits now amount to eighty thousand dollars. Mr. Karr has been prominently identified with the Eureka Building & Loan Association, which he organized, and under his management has become a very successful institution. He also owns a third interest in the Eureka Telephone Exchange, and is a stockholder in the Farmers' State Bank of Mason City, Illinois. As a business man he possesses untiring energy, is quick of perception and forms his plans readily and is determined in their execution; and his close application to business and his excellent management have brought to him a well-deserved success.

On the 26th of June, 1890, Mr. Karr was united in marriage with Miss Emma Dillon, of Normal, Illinois, who was educated at the Normal and Wesleyan Universities and the Bloomington Conservatory of Music, and is a member of the Christian church. They have one daughter, Helena.

Ellis Dillon, Mrs. Karr's father, was born in Clinton county, Ohio, March 25, 1816, a son of Jesse and Hannah (Pugh) Dillon, also natives of that state, and a grandson of Daniel and Anna Dillon. In 1823 he removed with his parents to Tazewell county, Illinois, where he grew to manhood. He married Martha Fisher, who was born in Clinton county, Ohio, July 10, 1827, a daughter of James and Amy (Bennett) Fisher, natives of the same state. Her family moved to Tazewell county, Illinois, in 1828, and there the father died October 22, 1844, the mother September 11, 1861. In early life Mr. Dillon became interested in the stock business, making a specialty of fine horses, which he imported from Europe. In 1865 he moved to Bloomington and three years later to Normal, where he made his home throughout his life, dying there April 13, 1899. For over sixty years he was an earnest and active member of the Christian church, to which his wife also belongs, and in politics was a Republican.

Mr. Karr was made a Mason in Abraham Jonas Lodge, o. 254, of Loda, and demitted to William C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, F. & A. M., of Eureka, of which he has been senior warden one year; worshipful master two years; and a representative to the grand lodge in 1892 and in 1896. He is also a member of Mackey Chapter, R. A. M., of El Paso; Couer de Leon Commandery, K. T., of the same place; and Mohamet Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria. He belongs to Walnut Grove Lodge, No. 394, K. P., in which he is serving as master of exchequer; and Republic Court of Honor of Eureka. In 1898 he was elected county treasurer of Woodford county on the Democratic ticket, and is now filling that office in a most creditable and acceptable manner. In 1892 he had the honor to represent the ninth congressional district in the national Democratic convention at Chicago, at which time there was quite a struggle in the election of a delegate. Mr. Karr is a pleasant, genial and polished gentleman of high social qualities and is very popular, having a most extensive circle of friends and acquaintances who esteem him highly for his genuine worth.

JOHN ADAMS.

Among Panola township's honored and highly respected citizens must be numbered John Adams, who has been a resident of Woodford county since August, 1866, and has been actively identified with its industrial and agricultural interests. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, June 11, 1827, and is a son of John and Mary Margaretta (Rottman) Adams, who spent their entire lives in that country. By occupation the father was a wagon-maker.

Reared in his native land, our subject received about the average common-school education, and learned the wagon-maker's trade with his father. In 1854, at the age of twenty-seven years, he came to the United States and first located in Albany county, New York. He worked at his trade for three years and a half in the city of Albany, and then opened a shop of his own at Bethlehem, the same county, where he carried on business until 1866, which year witnessed his arrival in Illinois. From April until August of that year he had charge of the wagon shop of Mr. Steinhauer, at Vandalia, and on the 6th of August moved to El Paso, where, in partnership with Adam Henning,

he engaged in business for three years. In August, 1869, he came to Panola and bought a shop of John Ward, where he followed blacksmithing and wagon-making with good success until 1890, when on account of failing health he retired from the business and has since rented his shop. He still assists in the work of his farm, however.

In Albany, New York, Mr. Adams was married, in 1859, to Miss Mary Margaret Hugelshafer, also a native of Bavaria, Germany, and to them have been born eight children, as follows: (1) George Albert, born in Albany, August 8, 1860, died in St. Louis, Missouri, December 9, 1891. He was a painter and a temporary resident of St. Louis at the time of his death. For a time he lived in Bloomington, Illinois, where he served as mail carrier from 1884 to 1888. He traveled considerably and in 1882 visited Europe with his mother. (2) Mary Margaret, born in Albany, March 12, 1862, is now the wife of Lewis Senf, of Fort Dodge, Iowa. (3) Carl John, born April 11, 1863, was reared and educated in Woodford county, and has made farming his principal occupation in life. He aids his father in carrying on the home farm, where he has lived continuously with the exception of one year spent in Kansas, where he pre-empted a claim of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Deerhead township, Barber county, Kansas, which place he still owns. He is one of the progressive young men of Panola township, is a stanch supporter of the Democracy, and is now serving as tax collector. (4) William Henry, born May 14, 1865, died August 13, 1866. (5) Frederick Wilhelm, born July 14, 1867, became a minister of the Lutheran church. He was exceedingly well educated, being a graduate of several colleges, and studied theology at St. Louis, being ordained in 1889. He began his ministerial work in the Lutheran mission of that city, and later erected a church on the southeast corner of Garrison and St. Louis avenue, St. Louis, where he died December 17, 1891. This was the first English Lutheran church of the Missouri synod in St. Louis. Although his career was short, he accomplished much and was a faithful worker in the Master's vineyard. (6) Amelia Louise, born April 14, 1869, is at home. (7) John Henry, born July 29, 1871, is engaged in farming on the home place in Panola township. (8) Henry Harmon, born December 5, 1875, died April 3, 1878. The family is one of which any parents might be justly proud.

The Democratic party has always found in Mr. Adams a stanch supporter of its principles, and he has labored earnestly for its success. He served as tax collector for two terms, and as a public-spirited and enterprising citizen his best wishes are for the welfare of his neighbors and his adopted country. Religiously he is a faithful member of the Lutheran church, and he is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him.

JAMES KERRICK.

James Kerrick, who is one of the substantial and highly respected citizens of Minonk, and whose elder brother is the present representative of this district in the state legislature (see sketch of Hon. Josiah Kerrick) is a worthy scion of one of the long-established families of Illinois.

Born in Woodford county, February 15, 1858, James Kerrick has been a life-long resident of this immediate locality, and is closely identified with its upbuilding and

progress. His parents, Armstead and Sarah (Sloan) Kerrick, natives of Virginia and New Jersey, respectively, were pioneers of Indiana and Illinois, and to their posterity they left an inheritance far better than wealth —the record of noble, well spent lives. The father was a local minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, and with lofty, self-sacrificing spirit he labored for the good of his fellow men. Few of the pioneers of central Illinois were better known or more thoroughly beloved, and their children were reared to a high standard of integrity and duty. Eleven in number, they were named as follows: Joanna, Mary, Steven, Josiah, Jacob, Thomas, Harrison, Henry, James, Benjamin and Phœbe. The mother departed this life in 1870, in her fiftieth year. By a second marriage of Mr. Kerrick three children were born. Orpha (deceased), John B. and Richard L., residents of Fairfield, Iowa, where the mother also makes her home. The husband and father was summoned to the better land in 1873, when he was about seventy-three years old. (See sketch of Hon. Josiah Kerrick, elsewhere in this work, for further family history).

The birthplace of James Kerrick was upon the parental homestead in this county, not far distant from the village of Low Point, and much of his boyhood was passed on a fine stock farm near Belle Plain, Illinois. He mastered the various details of agriculture and stock raising, and when he was twenty-two years old he entered into an agreement with his father and leasing a part of the farm, commenced its cultivation, aided by the team and implements which his senior furnished him. At the end of three years he removed to Minonk, and for the past seventeen years has made his home here. He has been engaged in the buying, selling and shipping of horses, frequently sending away a car-load every two weeks and in less in his chosen occupation. Since his early busy seasons he ships according to the demand. He owns and conducts a large feed and sale stable and has met with deserved success his chosen occupation. Since his early years he has been a lover of good horses, and developed great ability in managing them. He is considered an authority on the good points of a horse, and rarely makes a mistake in his judgment.

Fully appreciated as a citizen, Mr. Kerrick was selected by the public for the position of assessor of this township, his term of office extending from January, 1898, until January, 1901. In his political standing he is an uncompromising Republican, as to the policy of that party he believes the prosperity of the nation since the "reconstruction" period should be largely attributed. Strictly honorable and worthy of confidence, he possesses a host of friends.

The marriage of Mr. Kerrick and Martha Emma Hollenback was solemnized August 5, 1883, near Belle Plaine. Four children have been born to them, namely: Orpha A., Edna L., Ruth H. and Walter A. The eldest daughters, Orpha and Edna L., now attending the high school, possess considerable artistic ability, as is plainly shown by some cleverly executed paintings they have made.

The parents of Mrs. Kerrick are George and Malinda Hollenback, honored pioneers of Woodford county, and among the first settlers in central Illinois. The father was born in Perry county, Ohio, December 31, 1819, a son of Daniel and a grandson of Jacob Hollenback. Daniel Hollenback was as farmer, and for some years was engaged in freighting supplies across the mountains,

from Baltimore to Perry county, Ohio, and on one trip carried nearly three hogsheads of tobacco to the seaport, returning with a wagon-load of provisions and necessaries. In the autumn of 1835 he came to the west and found very few inhabitants of Marshall and Woodford counties. He settled near the division line between these counties and was one of the first to locate a cabin on Crow creek. A true frontiersman, he was an expert marksman and fond of hunting, and his sons inherited his skill. His wife was Martha, the daughter of Samuel and Martha Thralls, the latter an English lady, who came to this country with her parents when she was young. Daniel and Martha Hollenback became the parents of eight children, of whom George is the eldest. Julia is the widow of Rev. Samuel Ogle, an early settler of Marshall county, and well known as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church. He died about twenty years ago, and is survived by his three daughters. Susan, wife of Charles Dobson, and Mary Ann, wife of William Perry, are deceased. Sophia T., wife of Lewis Wineteer, resides in this county. Jacob married Margaret McCune. She is now deceased. Daniel, who served three years in the Seventy-seventh Regiment of Illinois Infantry during the war of the Rebellion, is at the Soldiers' Home in Quincy, Illinois. Martha Ellen married William Mann, but died several years ago.

George Hollenback suffered all of the vicissitudes of frontier life, as he passed his boyhood in a portion of the Buckeye state, which was but sparsely settled, and in 1835 became a pioneer of Woodford county —then an undeveloped wilderness. Nobly did he play the part of a founder of its present prosperity and his name is entirely worthy of being inscribed on its roll of honor. By diligence and sound business sense he acquired a competence, and reared his large family to occupy respected positions in the busy world.

The wife of Mr. Hollenback's youth was Jane Patton, a daughter of Nathan and Jane Patton. William, the eldest born of Mr. and Mrs. Hollenback, resides in Nebraska. He wedded Adaline Gilchrist, and their only son, Rufus, is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. Ella is the wife of Frank Layton, and the younger daughter, Bertha, is unmarried. John C., second son of Mr. Hollenback, is the proprietor of a fruit farm in Jefferson county, Illinois. His wife was formerly Miss Lydia (Miller) Graham, and their only son, Edgar, died at the age of twenty-two years, while Minnie, the daughter, is at home. George H., third son, died at the age of seven. Nathan P., of Nebraska, married Mary Gilchrist, and of their children, Elsie, George and Leslie are deceased, while those living are Carl, Fred, Daisy and a baby. Elizabeth J., elder daughter of the Hollenback family, is the widow of Ira Davidson, and mother of Arthur-Wilmer, Mabel, Emory and George (George and Arthur, deceased). Sarah E., the younger daughter, is the wife of John Grubb, of Kansas, and their nine children are: George, Rosa (deceased), Pearl, Myrtle, William, Hattie, Frank, Earl and Paul. Mrs. Jane (Patton) Hollenback departed this life December 2, 1857, after having been a faithful Christian and member of the Methodist church for several years. The union of Mr. Hollenback and Malinda Warden Davis was celebrated May 1, 1859. Her father, David Davis, was born in Vermont, September 20, 1809, and died November 21, 1858, seventeen years after his settlement in

Illinois. His wife, Mary A. (Stattler) Davis, was born October 5, 1812, and died February 2, 1896. Both were devout members of the Methodist church for many years. Their eldest child, Clarissa Ann, died in infancy and the third child, Mary J., also died when young. Albert lives in Forrest, Illinois; Eliza Ann Mann is a resident of Kansas, and Amanda J., widow of the Hon. Andrew J. Bell, lives in Peoria, Illinois. Charlotte, Mrs. Sylvester Coan, died in November, 1897, at the age of fifty-two years. John A., the youngest brother of Mrs. Hollenback, was one of the brave boys who wore the blue in the Civil war and was one of the unfortunate victims of Liby Prison. For six months he suffered the untold horrors of that dismal pen, and when, at last, he was exchanged, it was too late, for he was so weakened by illness and starvation, that he died just as the train conveying him to Annapolis reached the station in that city. To George and Malinda Hollenback two daughters were born, namely: Mrs. Kerrick and Cora Luella, who is Mrs. John Cheeseman, and has three sons, George T., Harry Leroy and Lester V. Mrs. Hollenback was born December 10, 1833, and when eight years of age came to the prairies of Illinois. Here she grew to womanhood, literally "growing up with the country," for within her recollection nearly all of the development of the central portion of the state has been accomplished.

JONATHAN D. WATKINS.

The subject of this sketch, a prosperous farmer residing on section 1, Belle Prairie township, Livingston county, Illinois, was born near Uniontown, the county seat of Fayette county, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1825, and is a son of Joseph and Sarah (David) Watkins. The father was also a native of Pennsylvania, where he spent the greater part of his life, engaged in farming and operating a saw-mill. About 1837 he removed to Union county, Ohio, where he was engaged principally in farming for some time, and then went to Shelby county, the same state, where he died at the age of sixty-six years. His wife, who survived him, died in the same county at the ripe old age of eighty-two years, and was laid to rest by his side. They were the parents of nine children, six sons and three daughters, of whom Jonathan D. is the oldest. The others were as follows: Thomas J., a prosperous farmer, died in Shelby county, Ohio, in 1863, leaving a widow and two children; Isaac, a school teacher of that county, died in Alabama; Joseph is a veteran of the Civil war and a farmer of Ohio; Benjamin, also an agriculturist, died in Shelby county; Enoch is still engaged in farming in that county; Phœbe J. is the wife of B. F. Howell, a farmer of Shelby county; Margaret is the wife of John Kohler, a veteran of the Civil war, and a farmer of Cass county, Missouri; Rebecca A. is the wife of Elias Howell, a prosperous farmer of Shelby county, Ohio.

The boyhood and youth of Jonathan D. Watkins were passed upon the home farm in Shelby county, which at that time was almost an unbroken wilderness, there being but few settlers, while deer and other wild game were plentiful in the forest. At the age of twenty years he started out in life for himself as a school teacher and taught for a short time in Shelby county, and later followed farming there. In 1866 he came to Livingston county, Illinois, and purchased

forty acres of land on section 2, Belle Prairie township, but sold that place a few years later and bought his present farm of eighty acres on section 1, the same township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he has since devoted his energies with marked success. This farm was entered by Judge David Davis, of Bloomington, from whom our subject purchased it. He has made nearly all of the improvements upon the place.

In March, 1853, Mr. Watkins was united in marriage with Miss Rachel M. Howell, a daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Maxim) Howell, natives of Pennsylvania, who lived to a ripe old age and died in Shelby county, Ohio, where they located at an early day. By occupation her father was a farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins have a family of four children, three sons and one daughter, namely: Franklin S., born in Ohio, in 1849, is engaged in farming on the home place; Joseph is married and also engaged in farming in Livingston county; William E. is married and is a jeweler and watchmaker of Cropsey, Illinois; and Laura is the wife of George W. Howell, a retired farmer of Strawn, Illinois. Other children of the family died when young.

Politically Mr. Watkins has always affiliated with the Democracy, but has never sought nor desired public office, although he is a public-spirited citizen, who gives his support to all that tends to improve or advance the interests of the community in which he lives.

ANDREW J. MOURER.

Among Eureka's most enterprising and successful business men none stand higher than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He became connected with the business interests of the city as a clerk in December, 1869, and is now a member of the well-known firm of McGuire & Mourer, the leading grocers of the place.

Mr. Mourer was born April 16, 1851, in Alsace-Lorain, then a part of France, but now a province of Germany, and was only four years old when brought to this country by his parents, Joseph and Katherine (Schweitzer) Mourer. In the spring of 1856 they came to Woodford county, Illinois, and located on a farm in Worth township. The father was one of the first ministers of the old Omish or Mennonite church in this section of the state, and one of its leading men for many years. He died *en route* to New Orleans in the fall of 1867, and his wife died in February of the same year.

Our subject attended the common schools of Worth township during the winter months, but as soon as the season opened he commenced work on the farm. He was taught some at home by his father, who was a good German scholar, and supplemented the knowledge thus acquired by reading and contact with the world in later years. He worked on the farm until the fall of 1869, and then came to Eureka and accepted a position as clerk in the grocery store of Ioerger Brothers. For some time he was with different proprietors of the same store, and then went to Metamora, where he was employed in a general store for thirteen months. Returning to Eureka, he entered the store of which he is now a proprietor as clerk July 1, 1878, and in 1886 bought an interest in the business, the firm becoming McGuire & Mourer. He devotes his entire time and attention to the business, which is mostly under his management, and is meeting with marked success. They

carry a large and well selected stock of groceries and queensware, and enjoy a larger trade than any firm of the kind in the city, giving employment to three men besides themselves.

Mr. Mourer was married, February 5, 1875, to Miss Hattie Jackson, a daughter of Samuel Jackson, one of the old residents of Eureka. Mr. Mourer owns a pleasant home besides other property in the city. Both he and his wife are consistent members of the Christian church, and he is now filling the office of deacon. He is quite a prominent member of Olio Lodge, No. 311, I. O. O. F., of which he is past grand; is also past chief patriarch of the encampment, past grand marshal of the grand encampment of Illinois, and official instructor and examiner of the unwritten work. He is a member of Canton Wildey, No. 4, at Peoria, and is major chaplain of the second brigade. As a Republican he takes quite an active interest in local politics, and has been a member of the executive committee. About ten years ago he was elected village trustee on the temperance ticket, and filled that office for two terms, during which time the water works were put in operation and the first brick sidewalks in the village were laid. In the spring of 1900 he was elected alderman from the first ward, Eureka having been incorporated as a city. By the citizens of Olio township he was appointed a member of the county seat committee to make the struggle for the county seat at Eureka, and their work was satisfactorily accomplished, getting first a petition, later the vote of the county, and finally a decision of the courts in favor of Eureka, the final appeal being to the supreme court of the state. This required a great deal of work and also the expenditure of considerable money. Mr. Mourer was a member of the finance committee, and took a very active part in the struggle.

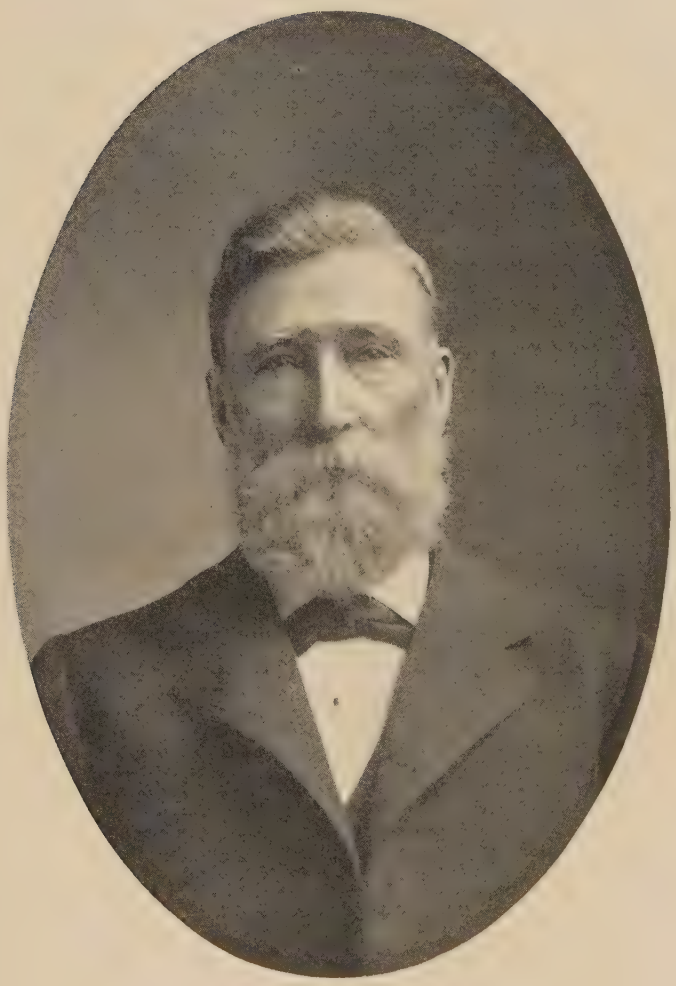
WILLIAM JURY.

Prominent among the early settlers of Woodford county, Illinois, who have witnessed the marvelous development of this section of the state in the last half century, and who have, by honest toil and industry, succeeded in acquiring a handsome competence, and are now able to spend the sunset of life in quiet and retirement, is the gentleman whose name introduces this review. For many years he was successfully engaged in farming, but is now living a retired life in Washburn.

Mr. Jury was born in Devonshire, England, December 26, 1828, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Tanton) Jury, also natives of Devonshire, who in 1850 emigrated to the new world and took up their residence in Woodford county, Illinois. After spending two years in Cazenovia township, they removed to Linn township, where the father took up a tract of government land, to the improvement and cultivation of which he at once turned his attention, making it his home throughout the remainder of his life. He died on that place in 1872, and his wife passed away in Metamora township, in 1879, honored and respected by all who knew them. Their children were William, our subject; Elizabeth, who died in Cazenovia township, in 1850; Thomas, a resident of Washburn; and Mrs. Mary Fulton, of Ford county, Illinois.

The first fourteen years of his life William Jury passed in his native land, but in

MRS. WILLIAM JURY.



WILLIAM JURY.

1842 he set sail from Bideford, England, and after a long and tedious voyage of eleven weeks and three days landed at New York. He immediately came west, by the Great Lakes, to Chicago, and by wagon to Woodford county, Illinois, where he lived with an uncle for six years. He then returned to England, and came again to this country with the family in 1850. Since that time he has made his home uninterruptedly in Woodford county. The year of his arrival he bought land in Linn township and also took up a tract of government land, becoming owner of three hundred and twenty acres in that township, which he converted into a fine farm. There he made his home until his removal to Washburn in 1896. Being a skillful agriculturist and a man of excellent business and executive ability, he met with marked success in his farming operations, and besides his valuable property in Linn township, he owns over four hundred acres of well improved land in Cazenovia township.

In 1857 Mr. Jury was married in Peoria county, Illinois, to Miss Maria Radley, also a native of Devonshire, England, and to them were born six children, namely: Mary; Clara; William, deceased; Belle; Cora, deceased; and Clarence.

Politically Mr. Jury is identified with the Republican party, and was the first assessor of what is now Linn and Clayton townships. He also served as commissioner and school trustee of Linn township, and in early life took quite a prominent and influential part in public affairs. He was prominently identified with the organization of the county and of the townships of Linn and Cazenovia, and has ever borne his part in the work of progress and advancement. His career has been such as to gain for him the confidence and respect of all with whom he has come in contact, and he justly merits the high regard in which he is held.

JACKSON PARKER.

Jackson Parker, honored as one of the founders of Woodford county and for several decades numbered among the citizens of Minonk, is certainly entitled to a prominent place in the history of this section and state. Long and earnestly he labored in the grand work of bringing the prairie wilderness into its present condition—the abode of thousands of happy, prosperous people, and with the fortitude of the true frontiersman, the pioneer of civilization, he endured hardships and trials of which this generation can form little idea. All honor to such heroic souls, the bulwark and mainstay of this great nation!

In tracing the ancestral history of Mr. Parker it is learned that he is of German extraction, though as long ago as the Revolutionary war in the United States, his paternal grandfather, James Parker, was in the service of the patriots and was a drummer boy, helping to inspire his comrades to their devoted duty. He was one hundred and one years old when he died, about 1830, and in his last years received a pension from the government which he had thus helped to establish. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Abner Settle, whose wife lived to the age of ninety-nine.

James Parker, Jr., father of our subject, was born and reared in Virginia, becoming a thorough millwright and carpenter. When he had passed his sixtieth anniversary he conceived the idea of settling in Illinois, where he believed better opportunities for

his large family would be afforded. In 1838, therefore, they made the long journey in wagons, over the mountains, valleys and plains of what seemed almost impenetrable wildernesses, and at the end of six weeks arrived at their land of promise. They located at a point near the Illinois river, where for fifty miles in some directions there was not a habitation. The two eldest sons, Jackson and James, bought eighty acres of land in Cazenovia township, Woodford county, and here the parents dwelt for several years. Then they went to Minonk to reside and spent their last years there, the revered father dying at ninety-one (lacking twelve days), and the mother at eighty-four. She was Frances Settle in her girlhood, and, like her husband was a native of Virginia. Their eldest born, udge, was killed when in his fifteenth year, and of the others, James, Jackson, Joseph, Martin, Lewis, Mary Ann and Mildred, only three survive. James, who sold out his possessions near Dana, Illinois, about twenty-six years ago and went to Washington, is still living in that state. Martin is a prosperous citizen of Elburn, Illinois. The parents were devout members of the Christian church and possessed the affection and high esteem of a large circle of friends. The father had been married prior to his union with Frances Settle and the wife died, leaving nine children, namely: Thornton, Shelton, Jane, Louisa, Matilda, Alcinda, Emily, Sarah and one who died in infancy.

The birth of Jackson Parker took place in Rappahannock county, Virginia, November 2, 1819. He attended the old-style subscription schools, when ten dollars a year was the payment required for each child's tuition. Perhaps his own youthful enthusiasm was an important factor in his father's decision to remove to the broad western prairies, and certain it is that he has not seen reason to regret his choice of a location. After farming in partnership with his brother for three years he sold out his interest and then rented land for a period. In 1847 he purchased some wild prairie land in Bennington township and from his house, situated in the border of Marshall county, not a furrow had been turned as far as the Vermilion river, nor on his side of Sandy creek on the north, Panther creek on the south and for twenty miles to the eastward. He still owns two hundred acres of finely improved land and retains forty acres of timber land, situated at the head of Crows creek. He rents his farm, receiving grain in payment.

In partnership with Charles Dobson, Mr. Parker built the first store erected in Minonk and for two years, from 1854 to 1856, was engaged in selling dry goods there. Subsequently he conducted a hardware establishment for a short time, but the town, at that period, comprised only six or seven houses. He has dwelt here continuously since its infancy, and few have been more thoroughly interested in its upbuilding. He purchased some of the first grain ever sold in the place, and for many decades has dealt to some extent in this product of the fertile country around. Strict attention to business and unusual sagacity in his investments have been factors in his financial success.

On the 11th of March, 1847, Mr. Parker married Harriet Dobson, daughter of Thomas and Mary Dobson. Born in England, November 17, 1825, she emigrated to the United States when in her fifth year and passed her early girlhood in Pennsylvania, where her father owned and carried on a farm. Later the family removed to

Marshall county, Illinois, and thus Mrs. Parker also is one of the early settlers of central Illinois. Six children were born to our subject and wife, namely: Mary Frances, who is the wife of Samuel Richardson, of Minonk, and has one child, Frances; Alice Jane, who is living with her parents; Ida May, wife of Mebalon Campbell, of Minonk, and the mother of Grace, Fred, Harry, Alice Edna and John (deceased); Nora A., wife of Charles Stonier, a farmer of the vicinity of Pattensburg, Illinois, and mother of five children, Elsie, Flora, Josephine, Floyd and Esther; and Harriet Ellen, who became the wife of Friar Richardson, a farmer of Livingston county, and has one son, Roy.

Mr. Parker is not a politician, nor has he been an aspirant to public office, though he has filled some positions when called upon to do so by his neighbors and friends. He votes for Democratic nominees and principles in national elections. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic order and carries a souvenir of the good will and esteem of that brotherhood—a beautiful gold-headed ebony cane, presented to him as a worthy exponent of Masonic principles and as one of the most venerable and most revered early settlers of Woodford county. Mr. Parker was one of the charter members of Rob Morris Lodge, No. 247, A. F. & A. M., and is the only one now living.

ERNEST ZIMMERMANN.

As a successful druggist and prominent business man Ernst Zimmerman has made his home in Roanoke, Woodford county since November, 1891. He was born in Peoria, Illinois, February 24, 1857, and is a son of Christian and Catherine (Ziegler) Zimmermann, both natives of Germany, the former born in Muenchweiler, Rheinisch, Bavaria, March 21, 1828, and the latter in Schoenenberg, Rheinisch, Bavaria, August 10, 1834. They were married in Bavaria, and two children were born to them before their emigration to America, but the daughter Louisa died in infancy. The other, Charles, born June 1, 1851, is a retired retail druggist of Peoria. Six children were added to the family after coming to this country, one of whom, Otto, died in Peoria during infancy; Herman was a jeweler before entering the United States service at Washington, District of Columbia, but is now living retired, being an invalid; Ernst is the next of the family; Eugene was at one time a druggist of Peoria, but is now selling phonographs and supplies in that city; Robert purchased a store of his brother Charles and is in the drug business in Peoria; and Albert is also a druggist of that city, has been an active member of the state board of pharmacy five years, and its president a year and a half. With one exception all of the sons were graduates of the School of Pharmacy of Chicago, and are now successful druggists, Charles completing the course in 1873; Ernst and Eugene in 1882; Robert in 1884; and Albert in 1887. For twenty-five years the father taught in a German free school in Peoria, and also gave private instructions in German and music for several years. He was selected as assistant to James Walsh, then circuit clerk of Peoria county, but was taken ill and never had an opportunity to serve. He held quite a prominent position in social circles in Peoria. His mother came to this country and died at the age of eighty years, being laid to rest in Peoria. Our subject's mother was killed in the rail-

road wreck at Chatsworth, Illinois, in 1887, on the fifty-third anniversary of her birth. Her brother, Jacob Zeigler, was for many years a well-known business man of Peoria, and having become quite wealthy is now living retired in that city.

Ernst Zimmermann, of this review, was educated in the German and English public schools of Peoria, and at the age of fourteen began his business career as an apprentice in a drug store, where he remained until in a drug store, where he remained until 1877, when he was placed in charge of a branch store belonging to Charles Zimmermann & Company, at Morton, Illinois. A year later the business was sold and our subject went to Chicago, where he worked as a clerk while attending the Chicago School of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated in 1882. He remained in that city until some time during the following year, when he returned to Morton and purchased the store of which he had formerly had charge. He was engaged in business there until November, 1891, when he came to Roanoke and embarked in business at his present location. In 1893 he had the misfortun to lose everything, a fire destroying his store and stock, but with characteristic energy he at once rebuilt, putting up a modern brickk building. He now carries a well-selected stock of drugs, school books, paints, musical merchandise and general notions, valued at thirty-five hundred dollars, and has built up an excellent trade.

While a resident of Morton, Mr. Zimmermann was married, March 13, 1884, to Miss Louisa R. Hay, who was born in Pekin, Illinois, January 29, 1861, and died in Roanoke, January 20, 1892, leaving three children: Ernest, born May 3, 1885; Dora M., born September 2, 1886; and Ralph E., born May 20, 1891. Two children, Nellie I. and Charles A., died in early childhood. On the 4th of August, 1892, Mr. Zimmermann was united in marriage with Miss Barbara Rush, who was born in Switzerland, July 14, 1862, and came to the United States with her parents when only a year old. Mr. Zimmermann has prospered in business and besides his store, he owns good residence property in Roanoke and a farm of one hundred and sixty acres in northern Kansas. He represents three insurance companies, the Aetna, Manchester, and German of Peoria, and does quite a business along that line. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, and has been appointed one of the judges of election. While a resident of Morton he was a member of the town board, and also a director of the village school several terms. Socially he is a member of William C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, F. & A. M.; Tazewell Chapter, No. 199, R. A. M.; Couer de Leon Commandery, No. 47, K. T., of El Paso; was a charter member of Morton Camp, No. 768, M. W. A., but now belongs to Roanoke Camp, No. 1206.

WILLIAM H. DAVENPORT.

Woodford county has been the home and scene of labor of many men who have not only led lives that should serve as an example to those who come after them, but have also been of important service to their county and state through various avenues of usefulness. Among them must be named William H. Davenport, who passed away at his home in Eureka January 17, 1863, after a life of industry and rich in those possessions which only a high character can give.

He was born in Christian county, Kentucky, June 7, 1823, a son of William and Eliza (Tribue) Davenport. The father, who was also a native of that state, brought his family to Illinois in 1835 and settled at Walnut Grove, Woodford county. He was a minister of the Christian church and preached throughout different parts of this state. He took a very prominent part in getting the charter for Eureka College and in soliciting means for its support. He was also one of the first trustees of the college and gave as liberally towards its support as his means would permit, having later in life been unfortunate financially. He helped to build the first church in Eureka and took an active interest in politics, but his life was mainly devoted to church and college work. He was a strong anti-slavery man.

William H. Davenport, of this review, was educated in Knox College, and at the age of nineteen years took charge of his father's farm with the hope of redeeming the property, his father having lost heavily by going security for friends in Mississippi. By his own exertions and good business ability he recovered most of the large estate and also provided for the family. He continued to follow farming successfully until two years prior to his death, and became the owner of six hundred acres of valuable land in Ohio and El Paso townships. He also dealt in stock and found that branch of his business quite profitable.

On the 15th of June, 1851, Mr. Davenport married Miss Mary J. Willis. Her father, Frank M. Willis, was born in Westmoreland county, Virginia, and when a young man moved to Glasgow, Kentucky, where he married Hespatia Davidson, a native of Christian county, that state. To them were born three daughters, of whom Mrs. Davenport is second in order of birth. In 1829 the family came to Walnut Grove, Illinois, and were among the earliest settlers of Woodford county. The father being a millwright by trade, built a mill on Panther creek, which was the first in this section, and to which men came from Bloomington and other places equally distant to have their grain ground. He did a big business for many years, but finally other mills were started. He bought land in El Paso township and improved a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, but spent his last days in retirement from active labor. He died June 9, 1875, and his wife departed this life March 22, 1892. They were among the first members of the Christian church organized at Walnut Grove and were well known and highly respected. Upright and honorable in all things Mr. Willis was known as the "honest miller." He served as township collector of El Paso for many years.

On leaving the farm Mr. Davenport removed to Eureka and purchased nearly all of block 3, on which he built the beautiful residence now owned and occupied by his widow. He left two sons, but Edgar A., the older, who was for many years railroad agent at Eureka, died May 3, 1893. In 1876 he married Emma Shelby, who survives him, with four children: Frank W., a graduate of the dental department of the Northwestern University of Chicago; John Ernest, who is attending Eureka College; and William H. and Amy, both in school. Frank W., the younger son of our subject, was graduated at the University of Michigan in 1882, with the degree of A. B., and then commenced the study of law in Bloomington, but died on the 7th of October, 1883.

By his ballot Mr. Davenport supported first the Whig and later the Republican

parties. From his boyhood up he was a consistent member of the Christian church and filled the office of deacon for some time. He was also a trustee of the college and a member of the financial committee, and assisted in building the first chapel, being a member of the building committee. He was untiring in his labors for both college and church. In speaking of Mr. Davenport we cannot do better than to quote the following from one who was intimately acquainted with him:

"William H. Davenport was a noble man. He was phenomenally energetic and industrious, accumulating a substantial competency while a young man in the midst of many discouragements. Yet he did not become stingy, nor lose interest in public affairs. He was the constant and liberal friend of the church and college. Although he was engaged in several kinds of business, he made very few, if any, enemies. He was so just and genial, so transparently honest and friendly that he was almost universally beloved. His father was a man of exceptional oratorical power, being one of the mighty pioneer preachers of Illinois. William H. did not inherit his oratorical gifts, but was gifted in song, and led the young people in their praise services, and at one time, in the early day, organized them into a bible-study class, which met from house to house of evenings."

Mrs. Davenport was reared and educated in Woodford county and in early life became thoroughly familiar with the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life. She, too, is a faithful and earnest member of the Christian church, has been actively identified with the College Aid Society and a member of the advisory board, and is also connected with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and different church societies. She is an estimable lady of many sterling qualities and has a large circle of friends in the community.

JOSEPH R. CLANDIN.

Joseph R. Clandin, one of the most popular young business men of Roanoke, is a native of Woodford county, his birth having occurred at Metamora, January 5, 1870. His grandfather, Eugene Clandin, one of the pioneer merchants of Roanoke, was born in France and came to the new world about 1853. For several years he was engaged in farming in McLean county, Illinois, but in 1880 purchased the store and business of John Frantz at Roanoke and turned his attention to general merchandising. He enlarged the building, increased the stock and built up a flourishing trade. The father of our subject was associated with him in business under the firm name of E. Clandin & Son until 1882, when he sold his interest to the son, though he continued in the clothing and grocery business. He is still living in Roanoke at the age of seventy years, but his wife, Marian, died in 1892. To them were born only two children and the daughter died at the age of two years.

John E. Clandin, the only son and father of our subject, was born in 1844. After he and his father dissolved partnership he was alone in business for some time and then became associated with Eli Gudeman, under the firm name of Clandin & Gudeman. They carry a well selected stock of general merchandise, valued at twelve thousand dollars, including everything with the exception of hardware, and receive a

liberal share of the public patronage. In his business career Mr. Clandin has met with excellent success and now owns considerable real estate in the town. He was married, in Woodford county, in 1868, to Miss Madeline Ebersoll, a native of France, and to them have been born twelve children, of whom Joseph R., our subject, is the eldest; Peter J. is working at the carpenter's trade for a coal company in Pontiac; Mary is the wife of J. B. Snyder, a carpenter of Roanoke; Martha is the wife of Eli Gudeman, who is associated with her father in business; Christian, a carpenter of Roanoke; Benjamin, a teamster of that place; Amelia, at home; David, who is in the employ of his father; Emma, John, Jacob and Nettie, all at home. All the children have been educated in the graded schools of Roanoke. The father casts his ballot with the Democratic party, but has never taken an active part in politics. He is a member of the German Apostolic church of Roanoke and gives liberally to its support.

As soon as Joseph R. Clandin was graduated at the public school of Roanoke he began his business career as an employe in his father's store, and later in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Gudeman, embarked in the dry goods business, which they carried on together for three years. He then sold out to the firm of Clandin & Gudeman and accepted the position of manager of the dry goods and gents' furnishing department, which he has filled since 1891. He has also been writing fire insurance since 1894, representing five of the best companies: The North American, Phœnix of Brooklyn, the Hartford, the Niagara and the Fire Association of Philadelphia. He has met with success in this undertaking and has built up a fine business. For the past nine years he has been manager for the Central Union Telephone Company, with office at Roanoke, and has been instrumental in establishing thirty-five 'phones. He is a very energetic and progressive young business man and undoubtedly a successful future awaits him.

In April, 1893, Mr. Clandin was united in marriage with Miss Nettie L. McCord, who was born in Greene township, Woodford county, in 1872, and is a daughter of William and Mary McCord, now living in Roanoke. She is the oldest of three children, the others being Willis, a teamster of Roanoke, and Alma, at home. Mr. and Mrs. Clandin have one child, Neah Kathleen, born December, 1899. The family have a very pleasant home, Mr. Clandin having purchased a lot and erected thereon a good modern residence.

As a Democrat he has always taken an active part in political affairs and has filled local offices of honor and trust, serving as a member of the town board two years, township collector the same length of time, and postmaster of Roanoke. He was appointed to the last named position during President Cleveland's administration and most ably managed the affairs of the office, though he had an assistant to do most of the work. Socially he is a member of Roanoke Camp, No. 1206, M. W. A., and religiously his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

FREDERICK N. TALLYN.

This well-known and popular cashier of the Benson State Bank, is a native of Woodford county, born in Clayton township, January 30, 1864, and is a son of Anthony and

Susanna Tallyn; the father died when our subject was only three years old, but the mother is still living and makes her home with a son, Charles A. Tallyn, a hardware merchant of Benson. The other children of the family were Anna, deceased, who was the wife of Joseph Pickard, of Minonk, Illinois; Carrie S., wife of Alfred E. Farney, of Clayton township, Woodford county; and Mary N., deceased wife of Daniel Davis, postmaster of Benson.

Frederick N. Tallyn was educated at Eureka and Galesburg and began his business career with his brother in the hardware trade. Later he engaged in the clothing business and afterward was in the employ of Martin Kingman & Company, an implement firm of Peoria. He was next offered the position of assistant cashier in the Benson Bank, then owned by B. F. Zinser, and served in that capacity for four or five years. When the bank was reorganized as a state bank, February 1, 1900, he was made cashier; B. F. Zinser, president, and P. H. Davison, vice-president; while the directors were Joseph Pickard, B. E. Backer, J. Peters, Sr., S. L. Peterson and F. N. Tallyn. When Mr. Zinser resigned the presidency Mr. Peterson was chosen to that position, which he now fills, and J. Pickard was made assistant cashier. The bank has a capital stock of twenty-five thousand dollars and is now doing an excellent business. Its thriving condition is due to the capable management of its officials, who are all good reliable business men, conservative, yet progressive.

On September 27, 1890, Mr. Tallyn married Emilie L. Fry, and to them have been born three children, namely: Alpha M., Gordon C. and Beth J. In his political affiliations Mr. Tallyn is a strong Republican, and as a public spirited and progressive citizen takes an active interest in promoting those enterprises tending to public development.

DAVID EVANS.

David Evans, deceased, through the years of his identification with Woodford county, enjoyed the highest respect of his fellow townsmen by reason of his strict integrity and true manhood. He was born in Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, October 11, 1829, a son of Evan and Amelia (Morris) Evans, also natives of that state. He is a descendant of Jenkin Evans, who with his brother David came from Wales to America in 1694. His grandparents, Walter and Mary (Smith) Evans, spent their entire lives in Pennsylvania. There the father continued to make his home until 1840, when he removed to Peoria county, Illinois. By occupation he was a farmer and miller. He was twice married and by each union had three children, those of the first marriage being Walter, Elizabeth and David. His second wife was Mary A. Hill.

The subject of this sketch began his education in the schools of Pennsylvania, and after the removal of the family to this state attended school in Peoria county for a time. After attaining his majority he engaged in the grocery and milling business successfully for a time, and then returned to his father's home, where he was needed. Later he conducted a mill and farm on the Kickapoo river, fifteen miles from Peoria, until 1871, when he came to El Paso. Here he formed a partnership with William M. Jenkins, and together they engaged in the grain business for twelve years, at the end of which time

Mr. Evans purchased his partner's interest and carried in the business alone, Mr. Jenkins removing to San Bernardino, California. He had one large elevator destroyed by fire, but soon erected another much larger and one of the best on the Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of El Paso, and served as its vice- president for several years, till the time of his death. As a business man he was energetic, progressive and thoroughly reliable, and carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook.

At Blue Rapids, Kansas, October 10, 1876, Mr. Evans married Mrs. Eunice C. Ryder, of Cleveland, Ohio, a daughter of Hiram and Lucy Ann (Bowler) Brewster. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. A. Briggs, a nephew of the noted Governor George N. Briggs, of Massachusetts, and who was for sixteen years pastor of the Oaklawn Baptist church of Providence, Rhode Island, and died November 12, 1897. In speaking of the happy married life of Mr. and Mrs. Evans their pastor said: "Together they have lived more than twenty-one years. They had begun to speak of a silver anniversary, but the call to the Golden City brought to him a higher and holier joy,while she is left to comfort her heart with the thought that

"Though the circling years of time may find us
Far apart and sundered more and more,
Still the farewell always lies behind us
And the welcome always is before"

Mrs. Evans is the ninth generation from Sir William Brewster, who came over in the Mayflower, and on the mother's side is the ninth generation from John Alden and Priscilla Mullen. Her grandfather, George I. Bowler, was a captain in the war of 1812.

By his ballot Mr. Evans always supported the Republican party and its principles, but he was never an office seeker. He served, however, as alderman of El Paso for four years and as school director nearly twenty-one-thousand-dollar mortgage, at ten part of the time. While serving as director he was mainly instrumental in lifting a twenty-one thousand dollar mortgage at ten per cent interest, from the school, which it was hard for the community to meet, and with the other directors he bonded the district at six per cent. At the end of nine years the debt was paid.

Mr. Evans died October 28, 1897, after two weeks illness from paralysis. He was one of nature's noblemen and the world is better for his having lived. He was an active and prominent member of the Baptist church of El Paso, of which he was a deacon for almost twenty years, and treasurer for siteen years. Those who knew him best speak in unqualified terms of his sterling integrity, his honor in business, and his fidelity to all the duties of public and private life. At his death Mrs. Evans received the following testimonial in regard to the appreciation of Mr. Evans as a member of the Board of Baptist State Missions of Illinois:

"Acknowledging the hand of God in taking to himself our brother, Deacon David Evans, we desire to place upon record our high appreciation of his character and interest in our work. For many years he sustained a sympathetic and generous relation to state missions. His prayers and alms alwas went together.

"Resolved that we extend to the widow our sincere sympathy.

"That a copy of this action be sent to his

bereaved family, and copied into our minutes.

"E. J. THOMAS,
"E. C. HEWITT,
"A. R. NEWTON,
"J. F. HOWARD, Com.

"The above report was adopted by the board of the Baptist General Association of Illinois at Bloomington, April 12, 1898.

"S. F. GLEASON, Rec. Sec."

Rev. Howard in the Standard said: "The church has met with a deep loss in the death of Deacon David Evans, the son of a deacon, himself a deacon over twenty-five years. He magnified his office. He did not think himself great or good, but he was both. He was the young man's example, the poor man's friend, the church's pillar, the pastor's comfort, the Lord's dear servant. His deathbed was triumphant; his entrance into glory abundant."

HERMAN LEFFERS.

Herman Leffers, who is serving the people of the third ward of Minonk as their representative in the city council, is a worthy type of the German-American citizen. He was born June 7, 1860, in the land of the Teutonic race and there grew to maturity, receiving an excellent education. His parents, Gerhard and Jennie Von Hovel) Leffers, are residents of Minonk, and for fifteen years have looked upon this city as their permanent home. Of their six children, one is deceased, little Wilhelm having died in Germany when two years old. The others live in the United States, Henrietta, wife of George DeFries, being employed in Stoddard's elevator, and Mary, wife of George Miels, being connected with the office department of Wylie's elevator business. Henry married Heiney Bonk, and Hannah, Mrs. John Radamacher, resides upon a farm near this city. All are respected citizens of the land of their adoption and are a credit to their upright, estimable parents.

Herman Leffers is the eldest of the six children, and, according to the commendable custom of progressive European nations, he was apprenticed to a trade when he was of a suitable age and served for three years. He then was employed by the government in the navy yards as a ship carpenter, assisting in the construction of some war vessels, and being associated in this work with five or six thousand men. After spending six years in this service, one year of the period sailing the high seas on a German steamship, still as a ship carpenter, he concluded to cast his fortunes in America. His uncle, whose home was in the vicinity of Benson, Illinois, had repeatedly written to the young man, urging him to come to the new world, where he believed his opportunities for financial success would be better.

With his eldest sister, Henrietta, Herman Leffers embarked at Bremen on a steamship bound for America, April 18, 1883. After he had obtained a start as a carpenter in this his chosen place of abode, his parents also came to Minonk. As a contractor and builder our subject has won an enviable place in the esteem of the business world and year by year his success has been growing. At points within twenty-five miles of Minonk he has erected buildings of different kinds and each one is his best advertisement, for thereby is shown his skill and thorough knowledge of his business and the fidelity with which he executes every contract.

In the domestic circle no less than in the commercial world Mr. Leffers is happily sit-

uated. His marriage to Mary Bunger, daughter of John and Hannah (Bense) Bunger, was solemnized October 15, 1886. She is a native of Germany, whence she came to the United States with her parents in 1881, settling in Minonk. Her eldest sister, Christina, is the wife of George Johnston, of the state of Washington. Anna, the next sister, with her husband, H. Freeling, formerly of Washington, is deceased. Lizzie, wife of Henry Sathoff, resides in Peoria. John, who wedded a Miss Monk, lives in Washington, and Hannah died in her fourteenth year. To our subject and wife three children have been born, namely: Jennie G., Minnie H. and John, all living.

Politically Mr. Leffers is affiliated with the Democratic party. In 1899 he was elected for a term of two years to the city council and is ably standing for the rights and interests of the people to the best of his knowledge. He is popular with the rich and poor and merits the high regard in which he is held, for he possesses admirable qualities of head and heart. Religiously he is identified with the German Lutheran church and puts into daily practice the high standards of conduct which were inculcated in him when he was young.

MICHAEL PIFER.

This well-known retired merchant of Eureka, Illinois, was born in Salem township, Columbiana county, Ohio, October 8, 1816, and on the paternal side is of German descent. His father, Peter Pifer, was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, October 22, 1786, and was a son of Peter Pifer, Sr., a native of Germany, who came to the new world about 1784 and lived for a time in Philadelphia. Later he made his home in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, where he purchased land and improved a farm. There the father of our subject grew to manhood, early becoming familiar with all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He also learned the carpenter's trade and worked at shoemaking during the winter months. On the 23d of February, 1809, he married Susannah Shipe, who was born May 17, 1794, and in 1812 they moved to Columbiana county, Ohio, and in 1832 to Portage county in the same state. Later he returned to Pennsylvania to care for his aged parents. He remained there three years and after their death he returned to Portage county in 1840, which was his home until about 1859, when he and his wife came to Woodford county, Illinois, where they spent their last days with our subject, both dying in 1862. They were among the early members of the Christian church in Ohio and took a prominent part in its work.

In the county of his nativity Michael Pifer was reared and educated and there learned the tinner's trade. In 1840 he opened a shop of his own in Garretsville, Portage county, Ohio, where he engaged in business for fourteen years. While there he filled different township offices, such as supervisor of roads and member of the school board, and was also deacon of the Christian church for seven years.

On the 11th of November, 1841, Mr. Pifer was united in marriage with Miss Hannah J. Willcutt, of Charleston, Portage county, Ohio, a daughter of Jesse Willcutt. By this union were born eleven children, seven of whom are still living, namely: Frank C., a resident of Kansas; Ellen, wife of Rev. G. M. Wiemer, of Iola, Kansas;

Harriet C., widow of Bariga and a resident of Peoria, Illinois; William, a hardware merchant of Deer Creek, Illinois; Mary, wife of J. H. Frame, of Eureka; Edward, a business man of the same city; and Ida, wife of J. H. Morris, of Eureka. The wife and mother died November 30, 1894.

In 1854 Mr. Pifer moved to Braceville, Illinois, where he opened up a farm, but soon rented it and engaged in the tinning business at Gardner Station until coming to Eureka in September, 1858. Here he kept a college boarding hall for two years and also opened a hardware store on the west side of the square, where he built a good two-story frame store, and carried complete stocks of stoves, tinware, etc., doing the leading hardware business of the place for thirty-two years. In connection with his son he also owned a grocery store and was prominently identified with the early business of the city. He erected a good residence north of the railroad, and in 1867 built the house which he now occupies. Beside this he owns two other houses on the same block and has other real estate in the city. He continued in active business until 1892, when he sold out and has since lived a retired life, enjoying a well earned rest, free from the cares and responsibilities of business life.

Mr. Pifer was reared a Democrat, but became a strong anti-slavery man and a supporter of the Republican party. He served as township treasurer twenty-two years and was also road commissioner for some time, school director five or six years and school trustee for some years, having always taken a great interest in promoting educational affairs and working hard for the betterment of the schools. He was a member of the Union League during the Civil war, and has long been connected with the Christian church of Eureka. He is widely and favorably known and is held in high regard by his fellow citizens.

LOTT SULLIVAN.

Lott Sullivan, a respected citizen of Minonk, bears the Christian name which has appeared in his family for many generations, and, indeed, it can be traced backward for four hundred years, to the time of the Confiscation act. His paternal grandfather, Lott Sullivan, held the position of agent of the estates of Simon Purdin in Ireland at the time of the battle of Waterloo. Calling in his tenants, the proprietor demanded that they renew their leases, and as they refused to do so he promptly turned them out of their homes as soon as their leases expired. He is a son of Lott and Margaret (O'Connor) Sullivan, natives of county Clare, Ireland. The father, who was a quiet, unostentatious man, came to the United States with two sons, James and Dennie, hoping to found a new home in a land where better opportunities for making a livelihood were afforded. After passing four years in New York and Pennsylvania, he went to Illinois, and thenceforth, until his death, at the age of sixty-eight, he dwelt upon a farm in La Salle county. His wife, who died when about fifty years of age in the Emerald Isle, possessed an exceptionally fine education, for she was an Irish and English scholar, having been a diligent student under the instruction of her father, John O'Connor, who had been trained for the priesthood and had been given unusually superior advantages. He was an only son, bearing his father's entire name, and his wife was a Miss Sallie McGraw in her girlhood. Bridget, their

first-born, became the wife of Patrick Coffee, and Elizabeth was the wife of John Ducy, while William, the only son, died unmarried.

Born November 20, 1835, on the parental homestead on the banks of the Shannon river in county Clare, Ireland, Lott Sullivan, of this sketch, spent his boyhood in the beautiful isle which was destined to suffer terribly from the ravages of famine. Some pitiable cases of need came within his observation and he even saw one man who had died from starvation. Three of the brothers, Michael, Dennis and William, are farmers of La Salle county, Illinois, and two brothers are deceased, namely: James and John. The five sisters, Maggie, Nora, Elizabeth, Bridget and Nora (the second of the name) died, and were placed to rest at the side of their mother in their native land.

After mastering the rudiments of education and agriculture Lott Sullivan concluded to join his father and brothers in the United States, and in 1852 made the voyage across the broad Atlantic. He went to Chester county, Pennsylvania, where they were employed and soon found work on a farm, where he remained about two years. He then became a citizen of Peoria county, Illinois, and by energetic labors and economy managed to obtain a financial start. At length he bought two hundred and twenty acres in Woodford county, improved the farm and still owns it. He made his home there until 1870, when he came to Minonk. Later he purchased a quarter-section of land in Marshall county, and during the years of his residence there greatly increased the value of the place. In the first year of the Civil war he found that he could not sell a load of corn and hauled it home. Later he took upwards of six hundred bushels to Lacon and sold it for fifteen cents a bushel. That same corn was later disposed of at an increase of a dollar a bushel, and at one time Mr. Sullivan sold corn at the same price, one dollar and fifteen cents per bushel.

A fact which speaks well for his popularly through his own unaided efforts. He this, that Mr. Sullivan, though an Irishman, living in a community largely made up of German-Americans and of different religious faith, was so good a citizen and kindly a neighbor that he was elected to numerous township offices, and for nine years served in the capacity of justice of the peace. He thoroughly justified the confidence placed in him and proved himself a true son of his adopted country. In his political preferences he is a Democrat, and religiously he is a Catholic, as his ancestors were before him.

In 1856 Mr. Sullivan married Bridget Tuohy, daughter of John Tuohy and a native of the same part of Ireland as our subject. She came to this country in 1848 and dwelt here, happily, until her death December 13, 1890, when she was in her seventy-second year. Of her six children two, Mary and Michael, are deceased. William resides in Toluca, Marshall county, Illinois, and John, who married Katie Martin, lives on his father's old homestead in this county. Lott, Jr., married Anna Burns and has three children, Earl, Leo and Lauretta. Maggie, the only living daughter, is living at home with our subject.

PETER BELSLEY.

At the time of his death, Peter Belsley was one of the prosperous farmers and business men of Roanoke township, Woodford county, and his possessions had been acquired

largely thrugh hi own unaided efforts. He had also won, by an honorable, upright life, an untarnished name, and the record which he left behind him is one well worthy of perpetuation. He was a native of Woodford county, born in Spring Bay township, December 7, 1841, and was a son of Joseph and Barbara Belsley, in whose family were eleven children. Those living are Christian, Joseph, John, David, Solomon and Benjamin.

In his native township Peter Belsley was reared and educated in much the usual manner of farmer boys of his day, and he remained on the home farm until his marriage. It was in 1866 that he wedded Miss Catherine Schertz, who was born in Worth township, Woodford county, September 15, 1846. Her parents, John and Magdalena Schertz, were natives of Alsace Lorraine, France, now a part of Germany, and were married after their emigration to America. After spending one year in New Orleans they came to Illinois and took up their residence in Woodford county, where they continued to make their home throughout life, the father dying in Linn township, the mother in Worth township. They were farming people and were highly respected and esteemed. Six of their children are still living, namely: Christian, a resident of Metamora township, Woodford county; Catherine, now Mrs. Belsley; Annie, wife of Joseph Livingston, of Hamilton county, Nebraska; John, a resident of Aurora, Hamilton county, Nebraska; Peter, of Panola township, Woodford county, Illinois; and Joseph, of Waldo township, Livingston county. One daughter, Magdalena, is deceased. The father was married a second time, and by that union had one son, Jacob, a resident of California. Mr. and Mrs. Belsley became the parents of nine children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Anna H., January, 1868; John J., September, 1869; David C., July, 1871; Michael E., September, 1873; Mattie E., August, 1876; Amos A., August, 1878; Barbara M., September, 1880; Kathryn A., December, 1883; and Benjamin R., December, 1886. They have all received good common school educations and one son took a collegiate course. All are at home with exception of John J., who is engaged in farming for himself in Roanoke township. He married Mattie Riscer, and they have one child, Vera Fern.

In early life Mr. Belsley followed threshing and corn shelling, of which he made a success, and after his marriage operated a rented farm for a time. He had some land deeded him by his father. In 1866 he came to Roanoke township and located on the place now owned by Solomon Belsley, it belonging to their father at that time. In 1875 our subject purchased the farm now occupied by his widow, and throughout the remainder of his life successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising here. He had twenty-nine acres of timber land besides three-quarters of a section, which he tiled, broke and improved, converting it into one of the most desirable farms of its size in the county. He erected thereon a comfortable residence and commodious barns, and made other improvements which added greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place. Progressive and enterprising, he was among the men who sunk the coal shaft at Roanoke, and was president of the coal company until his death, which occurred October 24, 1899. He was one of the best known men of his township, and always gave his support to any enterprise

calculated to benefit the community. He always took an active interest in maintaining good schools and efficiently served as director for many years. He held other township offices and affiliated with the Democratic party. He was a member of the Mennonite church, though he gave liberally to the support of all religious denominations, and never withheld his aid from any object which he believed would promote the moral, social or material welfare of his township or county. He had a large circle of friends and acquaintances and was held in high regard by all who knew him.

JOHN E. REED.

For the past nine years the subject of this sketch has successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits upon his preent farm on section 11, Linn township, having come here from Belle Plaine township, Marshall county, in 1891. He was born in Perry county, Ohio, March 17, 1851, and is a son of John W. and Evaline (Holcomb) Reed, also natives of the Buckeye state. For some years the father owned and operated a farm in Wisconsin, and from that state came to Illinois, in the fall of 1865, locating in Marshall county, where he continued to follow farming for some time. For three years he conducted a hotel in La Rose, and since 1880 has been proprietor of the Reed House at Varna, Marshall county. Politically he is a stanch Republican, and religiously is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal church, having always taken an active part in its work. Of the eleven children born to himself and wife, one daughter died in Wisconsin at the age of four years, and one son, Grant, died in La Rose, Illinois, at the age of twelve. The others are as follows: Clark E., a plumber of Davenport, Iowa, and formerly superintendent of the water works of that city; Caroline, wife of Robert Whitten, of Marshall county, Illinois; John E., our subject; Almeda, wife of Mark Wilson, a farmer of Colorado; Etta, wife of August Sangbush, of Washburn, Illinois; Charles and Ephraim, who died in Colorado; Julia, wife of James B. Foster, of Marshall county, Illinois, and Belle, wife of Samuel Myers, of Galesburg. The children all received good common-school educations. The father is now seventy-six years of age, the mother seventy.

John E. Reed attended the public schools of Wisconsin, and remained at home, aiding in the work of the farm until reaching manhood. In 1873 he was united in marriage with Miss Sophia J. Perry, who was born in Marshall county, Illinois, September 7, 1851, a daughter of Elijah and Nancy (Hatton) Perry, natives of Kentucky and early settlers of Marshall county. They had a family of eleven children, of whom five sons and three daughters are still living, namely: John, a resident of Marshall county; Sophia J., wife of our subject; Zachariah, at home; Forsyth, a resident of Iowa; Maggie, wife of A. H. Davidson, of Linn township, Woodford county; Frank E., a teacher of La Rose; Ella A., at home; and Cora V., wife of Andrew Snow, of Marshall county. The father is now deceased, but the mother is still living and makes her home with two sons in Marshall county. Mr. and Mrs. Reed have four children: Carrie F., wife of Frank Wrythmiller, a farmer of Marshall county; Ellson L., who is taking a commercial and teacher's course at Dixon College, Illinois; Rose P. and Jay E., both at home.

The children have all attended the public schools and have had advantage of a college course.

Since his marriage Mr. Reed has always followed general farming and stock raising and has successfully operated his present farm on section 11, Linn township, Woodford county, for the past nine years. The Republican party has always found in him a stanch supporter of its principles, and since 1896 he has been a member of the county central committee. He takes an active part in campaign work, and has most creditably filled a number of township offices. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 1821, at Washburn, and religiously is a member of the Christian church, in which he is serving as deacon.

HON. JOHN L. McGUIRE.

Ireland has furnished to the United States many bright and enterprising young men, who have become prominent in business and public life. Though born across the water, they are thoroughly American in thought and feeling, and are patriotic and sincere in their love for the Stars and Stripes. Among their number is Mr. McGuire, one of the leading citizens of Metamora, Illinois, who is now practically living a retired life.

He was born in county Tipperary, Ireland, August 27, 1844, a son of John and Bridget (Quinn) McGuire, also natives of that country, where the mother died soon after the birth of our subject. In 1853 the father came to America and located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he died two years later. In their family were three sons and three daughters, who reached years of maturity, but only Mrs. Catherine Murray, of Louisville, Kentucky, and our subject are now living.

Mr. McGuire was reared on a farm and inured to many hardships, receiving a very limited education. He is therefore almost wholly a self-educated as well as a self-made man. He crossed the Atlantic with his father, and in March, 1858, at the age of thirteen years, came to Woodford county, Illinois, where he has since made his home. Here he began life empty-handed among strangers, but he steadily overcame the obstacles and difficulties in his path, and is now enabled to lay aside all business cares and enjoy the fruits of former toil.

In January, 1862, Mr. McGuire enlisted as a private in Company D, Fifty-first Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. The first engagement in which he participated was the battle of New Madrid, followed by the battles of Island No. 10, Stone River and Chickamauga. During the last named engagement he received a gunshot through the body, and was taken prisoner the same night, being sent to the Richmond hospital, where he remained for seven months, and was then paroled and sent to Baltimore, where he was granted a furlough. While at home he received word of his exchange, and then rejoined his regiment in time to take part in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain and the Atlanta campaign. Later his command was sent back to Tennessee and joined General Thomas' army at Nashville. They took part in the battle at that place and at Franklin, and assisted in driving Hood from the state. At the close of the war Mr. McGuire was honorably discharged at Huntsville, Alabama, in March, 1865, and returned to his home in Woodford county.

JOHN L. McGUIRE.

After working by the month as a farm hand for two or three years he engaged in operating rented land for several years, and then purchased a tract of eighty acres in Metamora township, which he improved. Later he rented that farm and bought a partially improved place of eighty-five acres, on which he made his home for several years. He has bought and sold other lands, and still owns a valuable tract of three hundred acres, known as the old Page place, adjoining Metamora, to the improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies for some years.

In Woodford county, November 24, 1870, Mr. McGuire married Miss Adelia Page, a native of Gilmanton, New Hampshire, and a daughter of Adino and Arvilla (Page) Page, one of the pioneers of Woodford county, where she was reared and educated. Prior to her marriage she successfully engaged in teaching for a time. By this union three children have been born: May, who died at the age of twenty years; Myra, a graduate of the School of Oratory of the Wesleyan University at Bloomington, Illinois; and John A., at home.

In 1868 Mr. McGuire cast his first vote for U. S. Grant, but since that time has been identified with the Democratic party, and has taken an active and prominent part in local politics. He has been a delegate to numerous county, congressional and state conventions of his party, and has been elected to important official positions, serving nine consecutive years as supervisor and representing the county in the thirty-ninth and fortieth general assemblies. Among his associates in the house was Mr. Alschuler, the present Democratic candidate for governor of Illinois. He was a member of five important committees during his first term and eight the last, and took a very active part in the work of that august body. He was a member of the school board for nine consecutive years, president of the village board for five years, and is now one of the justices of the peace of the township, having held the office for thirteen years. During his service as mayor of the city the water works were put in.

Mr. and Mrs. McGuire are members of the Baptist church, but now attend the Union Protestant church of Metamora, and give liberally of their means to its support. He is also a member of the Grand Army post at Eureka, the Modern Woodmen camp at Metamora; Eureka Lodge, F. & A. M.; Washington Chapter, R. A. M.; El Paso Commandery, K. T.; and Mohamet Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Peoria. During his long residence in Woodford county he has championed every movement designed to promote the general welfare, has supported every enterprise for the public good, and has materially aided in the advancement of all social and moral interests. After a useful and honorable career he can well afford to lay aside all business cares and live in ease and retirement.

J. B. GOODWIN.

The well known and highly respected citizen of Roanoke, Illinois, was born in Salem, Roanoke county, Virginia, September 22, 1865, and is a wrthy representative of old and honored families of that state. The Goodwins were among the very earliest settlers of the Old Dominion, the family being founded in Augusta county at a very early day in the history of the colony. Our subject's grandfather, Joseph Goodwin, was

a native of that county, and his wife who bore the maiden name of Polly Jenkins, was also of Virginian stock. He died during the childhood of John Goodwin, father of our subject. The latter was born in 1830, and spent his entire life in Roanoke county, his occupation being that of farming. He married Elizabeth Gaines, also a native of Roanoke county, and a daughter of Major Kemper Gaines, who served with distinction as an officer in the war of 1812. Her brother, Thomas Gaines, was a soldier of the Mexican war and a commissioned officer in the Civil war. He died in Clarksville, Texas. Mrs. Goodwin's grandfather, Colonel Gaines, was one of the heroes of the Revolutionary war. It will thus be seen that her family has been well represented in the wars of his county. Her grandfather was a native of Scotland and located in Virginia at a very early day.

Our subject was the fifth in order of birth in a family of seven children, the others being as follows: Thomas P., and C. E., both residents of Salem, Virginia; Anna, wife of George Kern; Laura V., wife of E. M. Gross; Zella, wife of Robert Sears; and Kemper. With exception of our subject all make their home in Salem, Virginia.

In the county of his nativity J. B. Goodwin grew to manhood, his education being obtained in its public schools. In early life he learned the carpenter's trade, but later gave his attention to carpentering an engineering, continuing to follow those occupations in Virginia until 1885, when he came west and settled in Roanoke, Illinois. Here he was employed as engineer at the tile factory for two years, and then returned to carpenter work, which he followed in Roanoke and vicinity until the spring of 1897, when he took charge of the Roanoke electric light plant for Isaac Snyder and has since run it. He has also had the management of a gristmill for Mr. Snyder.

On the 3rd of March, 1892, Mr. Goodwin was united in marriage with Miss Mayme L. Hollenback, a daughter of Samuel Hollenback, who lives near Belle Plaine, Woodford county. Politically Mr. Goodwin is a stanch supporter of the Democratic party, and socially is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is widely and favorably known and during his residence in Roanoke has made many warm friends.

ALEXANDER HAWK.

Among the leading and influential farmers and stock raisers of Linn township, Woodford county, who thoroughly understand their business, and pursue the vocation of their chosen calling in a methodical and workmanlike manner, is the subject of this biography. He resides on section 11, and owns a well improved and highly cultivated farm of one hundred and twenty acres.

A native of Illinois, Mr. Hawk was born in Tazewell county, September 5, 1845, and is a son of Philip and Sarah (Kerr) Hawk, both natives of Brown county, Ohio, the former born in 1816, the latter in 1815. His paternal grandfather, John Hawk, a soldier of the war of 1812, died about 1825, when Philip was only nine years old, and the maternal grandfather, ——— Kerr, died in 1818, when the mother of our subject was but three. The parents were reared and educated in their native county, and there they were united in marriage. In 1844 they came to Illinois and first settled in

Tazewell county, where the father purchased land and followed farming for ten years. At the end of that time he came to Woodford county, and from the unbroken prairie developed a fine farm, owning at the time of his death two hundred and forty acres. During the '70s he speculated in land and was quite successful. He died at his home in Linn township, in 1898, after a residence there of forty-one years. In politics he was a Democrat, but took no active part in political affairs, though he always gave his support to any enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit.

Our subject is the second in order of birth in a family of eight children, all of whom reached years of maturity. The others were as follows: John, born in Ohio, served four years as a soldier of the Civil war, an died on the old homestead in Linn township, in 1876. Minerva is living on the home farm. Mary wedded William Hopwood, and died at the age of twenty-two years, leaving one daughter, Lillie, now the wife of Isaac Black. Sarah married Samuel Whitmore, of Roanoke township, Woodford county, and died at the age of twenty-five years, leaving one son, John, now a resident of California. James is living in Linn township. Maria L. lives on the old homestead. Flora is the wife of Samuel Robinson, of Cazenovia township, Woodford county. The children were all educated in the district school near their early home.

Alexander Hawk attended school both in Tazewell and Woodford counties, and under the direction of his father acquired an excellent knowledge of every department of farm work. He remained under the parental roof until he was married, in October, 1866, to Miss Hatie Van Buskirk, a native of Marshall county, Illinois, by whom he had three children, but all died in childhood. The wife and mother died in May, 1871. They lived for a time in Clayton township, Woodford county, and then returned to Linn township, where her death occurred. After the death of his wife Mr. Hawk lived with his parents for three years. In 1874 he was married again, his second union being with Miss Mary Whiten, who was born in Tazewell county, December 31, 1850, and is the fourth in order of birth in a family of six children, two sons and four daughters. Her parents are both deceased. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hawk, Charles died in 1887, at the age of ten years, and William died in 1888, at the age of nine. Philip, the eldest of the family, married Daisy Perry, and have one daughter, Marian. He lives with his father and assists in the operation of the farm. He attended college in Bloomington an Eureka, taking a business and commercial course. Grace, the only daughter, received a good high-school education, and is now successfully teaching in the district schools.

In 1874 Mr. Hawk made his first purchase of land, consisting of eighty acres in Linn township, to which he has since added a forty-acre tract, all of which has been improved by him. He has tiled and fenced the land and erected thereon good modern buildings. He operates two hundred acres of land in connection with general farming and engages in stock raising, to which he formerly devoted most of his time and attention. In political sentiment he is a Democrat, but at local elections votes for the man and not the party. He has filled the offices of collector and assessor, and at present is serving as school treasurer of his township. As a public-spirited and progressive citizen

he takes a commendable interest in any enterprise tending to advance the moral, social or material welfare of his community. Religiously both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal church.

TJARK EILTS.

Tjark Eilts, agent for the Henning Brewing Company, of Mendota, Illinois, for the city of Minonk, is a native of Hanover, Germany, his birth having occurred July 9, 1843. He accompanied his parents, L. E. and E. K. Eilts, to the United States in 1856, and for sixty-four days was tossed to and fro upon the broad Atlantic. Coming direct to Illinois, the family located in Peoria, where the father worked at various pursuits. Our subject had attended the public schools in his native land prior to his emigration, and after becoming a resident of this republic it was not his privilege to devote much time to his education while he was young. The father is still living, and on the 12th of March, 1900, passed the eighty-third anniversary of his birth. The mother died in August, 1899, when about eighty-two years old. They have been identified with the German Lutheran church for many years, and their lives have been noble and worthy of praise, in every respect. To their children they leave the priceless heritage of an untarnished name and record. Margaret, the eldest daughter, is the wife of Peter Wuebbens, and resides near Flannigan, Illinois, and John J. and Tjamde are unmarried and living with their father.

Tjark Eilts, as the eldest son and mainstay of his parents, remained with them and assisted in the support of the family until he was nearly thirty years of age. For six years thereafter he was actively engaged in farming, and eighteen years ago he embarked in his present line of business. For a score of years he has been a citizen of Minonk, which has grown rapidly, and, though he is not a politician, he does his duty as a patriot, and performs his full share of the obligations devolving upon him, as a voter and inhabitant of a prosperous republic. His business ability is beyond question, and that his firm appreciates his services on its behalf is shown by the long period of his connection with the one house.

On the 12th of July, 1873, Mr. Eilts married Miss Imke Cordsen, daughter of Jacob and Renoldt Cordsen, both of whom died when she was a young child. E. Catherina, the first-born of our subject and wife, became the wife of Otto Klatt, and their only child bears the name of Otillie. Jacob E., the eldest son of Tjark Eilts, married Mary Vosberg. He resides at Minonk and is now in his father's employ. The younger members of the paternal family include Irena A. and Villamena E.; John J., who died at the age of twenty-eight months; Annie T., who attends school; Matilda, who died when twenty-seven months old, one who died unnamed, and John J., now eight years of age.

G. M. SIMPSON.

In the activities of the present age, we, the heirs of generations of brave, hardy pioneers who led the way for civilization, by going forth into the untrodden western wildernesses and there "enduring all things, suffering all things," are too apt to think lightly or seldom of the debt of gratitude

which we owe to those strong, noble souls who "builded better than they knew." It is fitting that the names and annals of all of the worthy founders of each county and state should be handed down in the records of progress, for in biographies of active workers on the world's stage are to be found the truest histories of a nation's development.

G. M. Simpson is a son of Harrison and Maria (Combs) Simpson, who indefatigably labored in making a home and provision for their large family on the prairies of this state. The father was born in Ohio in the early part of this century, and was of Scotch descent. His father, who was one of the early settlers in the Buckeye state, was a native of the land of the thistle and heather, but for a wife he chose a lady, who, though a native of Pennsylvania, was of German extraction. Mrs. Harrison Simpson, born in Virginia, October 19, 1813, resides at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Anna C. Hopwood, of Livingston county, and has survived her husband nearly sixteen years. He came to Illinois in 1848 and three years subsequently became a farmer of this county. In the course of time he became well to do and prominent, owning and cultivating more than a section of fine land. In all the varied relations of life he proved himself true, just and competent to meet every responsibility. He occupied numerous minor local offices and for many years was a deacon in the Baptist church.

G. M. Simpson, the fifth of eight children, was born in Canton, Illinois, October 27, 1849. His older brothers were William Henry, J. A. and W. C. The last named, who was an able and successful lawyer, served as state's attorney and occupied numerous public positions in this county, and after going to Emporia, Kansas, where he also held a position as prosecuting attorney, and was retained as legal advisor of the Santa Fe Railroad, he died, in the midst of his activities. Benjamin F., who also has been an attorney and commanded an extensive practice until he removed to Chicago, is now engaged in the real estate business. Charles T., the youngest brother, married Lillie Humphrey and carries on a farm in this county. Catherine, wife of John Hopwood, is numbered among the agricultural class of Livingston county, and Laura wedded E. B. Kipp, who is a lumber merchant of Evanston, Illinois.

The birthplace of our subject is in Canton, Illinois, and his early years were passed on a farm. When he was a mere lad a taste for commercial life was developed in him, after completing a public school course he attended Illinois State University at Champaign, Illinois, and thoroughly mastered the business branches taught there. In 1882 he located in Woodford, and since that time has been connected with the grain trade of this section of the state. As this region is exceptionally fertile and productive of grain, a large and flourishing business is carried on, and Mr. Simpson attends to the management of three elevators here. He possesses marked ability and foresight, and to his efforts much of the financial activity of this place is due. He is considered one of the substantial men of the local business world, and in every respect is a progressive and public-spirited citizen.

On the 9th of January, 1880, Mr. Simpson married Miss Sophronia H. Colean, daughter of Edward and Nancy Colean, formerly of Jerseyville, Illinois. The father is deceased and is survived by his wife, Mrs. Simpson is a native of this state, and for several years prior to her marriage was

numbered among its successful teachers. She enjoyed the advantages of an excellent education, and is a graduate of Mt. Carroll Seminary. Four children bless the union of this worthy couple, namely: Colean, Cora, Stella and Lorena.

In his political faith Mr. Simpson is a Republican, taking marked interest in the success of his party. Fraternally he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor. In the home circle he finds his deepest happiness, and as a husband and father, son and neighbor, his life has been above reproach. He delights in surrounding his dear ones with advantages and everything which contributes to an attractive home of culture. At the same time he is every ready to extend a helping hand to the poor and afflicted, and all who know him speak of him in terms of praise and appreciation.

PROFESSOR I. G. LINVILLE.

Among Roanoke's best known and most popular citizens is Professor Linville, principal of the public schools of that place. He was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on the 11th of February, 1864, and is a son of B. J. and Rachel (Rosetta) Linville, also natives of Lancaster county. The Linville family was founded in this country by three brothers, who came to America with William Penn and settled in Pennsylvania. One of the number later went to Ohio and founded a branch of the family there, another went south and was never afterward heard from. The other one remained in Pennsylvania and he was the great-great-grandfather of our subject.

B. J. Linville, the Professor's father, was a farmer by occupation. In 1870 he left his native state and with his family removed to Russell county, Kansas, where they spent one summer, and then moved to Mason City, Illinois, making that place their home for five years. Subsequently they lived for a short time on a farm near that city, and in 1883 removed to La Platte, Adair county, Missouri, where Mrs. Linville died in 1895. The father is now a resident of New Holland, Logan county, Illinois. In the family were seven children, namely: H. F., a resident of New Holland; Mary, wife of David Berrier, of Kirksville, Missouri; B, J., of New Holland; George, who died in infancy; I. G., the subject of this sketch; Rose, wife of John Brown, of Vinton, Iowa; and Robert N., a minister of the Christian church at Canton, Missouri.

Professor Linville received his preliminary education in the public schools of Mason City, Illinois, and in 1883 entered the Brashear Academy at Brashear, Missouri, where he continued his studies until 1886, and while a student there he was also employed as instructor in that institution. He next attended the State Normal School at Kirksville, Missouri, for one year. For one year he taught at the Brashear public schools, and for the same length of time at Bee Grove, Illinois. He was then elected principal of the Brashear public schools, in which capacity he served two years, and at the end of that time entered the normal school at Valparaiso, Indiana, where he was a student during the school year of 1893-1894. In the fall of the latter year he accepted the principalship of the schools at Broadwell, Illinois, and served in that capacity for five years. In 1899 he accepted his present position as principal of the schools at Roanoke, which he has since filled

in a most creditable and satisfactory manner. He is progressive in his methods and has never ceased to be a student, but while teaching has attended the summer schools at Valparaiso, Indiana, Fenton, Michigan, and at Hoopeston, Illinois. He has been granted the degrees of Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Philosophy and Bachelor of Pedagogy.

On the 24th of June, 1896, Professor Linville was united in marriage with Miss Katherine Ginther, of New Holland, Illinois. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Court of Honor. He is an earnest and successful educator, who is outranked by few in thoroughness of preparation and scope of experience.

HERBERT D. LEWIS.

Herbert D. Lewis, the well-known editor and proprietor of the Benson Bee, is a native of Woodford county, born in Eureka, in 1867, and is a son of G. W. and Helen M. (Bidwell) Lewis, natives of New York, and representatives of old families of that state. The father is a contractor and builder, and with his partner has probably built nearly one-third the houses of Eureka. For over fifty years he and his wife have traveled life's journey together, sharing its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity, and on the 14th of August, 1900, celebrated their golden wedding. Our subject is the youngest of their children. Of those still living, Mrs. Lillie Krater resides with her parents; Crayton is a farmer of Worth township, Woodford county; and Emma is the wife of I. G. Leach, a farmer of Paxton, Illinois. One son, Fred, died at the age of two years, and a daughter, Minnie, married James Snead. She died in Peoria at the age of twenty-three years.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the Eureka schools, and at the age of nineteen completed the course of study at the high school, after which he was chosen second assistant in that institution and filled that position one year. Later he taught in various district schools for nine years, and during vacations studied the printer's trade. After giving up teaching he entered the office of the "Woodford Courier" as compositor, and worked three years. In 1896 he worked for D. Davis, the editor of the Benson paper, and afterwards connected with the "Journal" office. On the 8th of December, 1899, he established the "Benson Bee," a bright, newsy sheet, which he publishes wholly as a local newspaper, making no effort to write politics, but running it solely as an independent paper. Mr. Lewis also has a fine job printing department, which has proved quite profitable. With his work as reporter and other duties connected with the office, he is a very busy man, and is meeting with well deserved success.

In 1894 Mr. Lewis was united in marriage with Miss Maude C. Fisher, of Eureka a daughter of J. L. Fisher, a retired farmer of that place, and to them have been born one child, Harold. In 1898 Mr. Lewis served as city clerk of Eureka. He is a member of Walnut Grove Lodge, No. 344, K. of P., of that city, of which he is past chancellor, and also belongs to the Uniform Rank of the same order. Religiously he is a member of the Presbyterian church of Eureka, as is also his wife, who was an active worker in the church during her residence there. They

have made many friends since coming to Benson, and wherever known are held in high regard.

JOSEPH A. HOLMAN.

This gentleman, who is one of Washburn's highly esteemed citizens and an honored veteran of the Civil war, claims Indiana as his native state. He was born on the 20th of July, 1828, and is a son of Tanda and Laura (Parker) Holman, the former a native of Kentucky, the latter of New York. The father grew to manhood in Kentucky and there learned the cabinetmaker's trade, which he made his life work. At an early day he moved to Indiana, and in 1855 came to Pattonsburg, Woodford county, Illinois, but his last days were spent in Missouri. His wife survived him some years and died near Columbia, that state. In their family were eleven children, several of whom were soldiers of the Civil war, while the father aided in the defense of his country in the war of 1812. Of the children Emaline and Elizabeth both died in Missouri; Joseph is the next of the family; Gideon entered the Union service from Woodford county, Illinois, and later died in that county; Samuel is a resident of Washburn; John enlisted in Woodford county, and is now living in the state of Washington; William was captain in an Indiana regiment and died in that state; Frank enlisted at Springfield, Illinois, served two years, and is now a resident of Petersburg Junction, Indiana.

In 1852 Joseph Holman first came to Woodford county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming for a time, but prior to the Rebellion moved to Kentucky. In Canton, Trigg county, that state, he enlisted, in 1863, in Company M, Third Kentucky Cavalry, under Colonel Murray and Captain Shaw. He was mustered in at that place, his regiment being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He did garrison duty most of the time, and went on a scouting expedition along the Cumberland river. The war having ended he was honorably discharged at Catis, Trigg county, Kentucky, in 1863.

While living in Kentucky Mr. Holman was married, in Trigg county, to Miss Penina Elridge, of that state, who died leaving one child, Joe, now a resident of Colorado. Mr. Holman was again married, in Woodford county, Illinois, his second union being with Rebecca Pickins, who also died leaving one child, Amanda. In 1875 he returned to Woodford county, and now makes his home in Washburn, where he is well known and highly respected. In his political affiliations he is a Republican.

PERRY W. HOSHOR.

The subject of this review was for many years one of the most prosperous and wealthy citizens of Spring Bay township, Woodford county, Illinois, and was prominently identified with the agricultural interests. He met death by accident November 21, 1892, and his loss was mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

A native of Woodford county, Mr. Hoshor was born on the old homestead in Spring Bay township, November 5, 1841, and was a worthy representative of one of its prominent pioneer families. His father, William Hoshor, was born in Pennsylvania,

PERRY W. HOSHOR.

and in an early day came to this state, being one of the first to locate in what is now Spring Bay township, Woodford county, where he erected a grist and saw-mill, and also opened up a farm, becoming one of the prominent and successful business men of that section.

Upon the home farm Perry W. Hoshor grew to manhood, and his primary education, obtained in the local schools, was supplemented by a course at Marion, Ohio. He thus obtained a good practical education, and by subsequent reading and observation became a well-informed man. He succeeded to the home farm, and to it added more land until he had over six hundred acres in one tract, while his landed possessions here and elsewhere amounted to nearly two thousand acres of choice farming land under a high state of cultivation and well improved. He was a thorough and systematic farmer, and a reliable and energetic business man, who carried forward to successful completion whatever he undertook.

In Spring Bay township, June 18, 1865, Mr. Hosher was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Dwyer, who was born in Ireland, but was reared in Woodford county from her tenth year. On first coming to America, her father, Dennis Dwyer, now deceased, located in Indiana, and from there moved to Woodford county, Illinois. Of the eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hoshor two are deceased, Ira having died at the age of two months, and George at the age of five years. Those living are as follows: Mary, wife of Solomon Belsley, of Roanoke; Cordelia, wife of William Frederick, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume; William D.; Alfred, who is married and carries on the home farm; Ellen; John; Dora; Talbert and Christian, all at home with their mother. Since her husband's death Mrs. Hosher has built a commodious and pleasant residence in Spring Bay, where she now resides, while her sons operate the farm. She is a most estimable lady and the family are widely and favorably known.

Politically Mr. Hoshor was a stanch Democrat, but never aspired to office. His career was ever such as to win for him the confidence and respect of those with whom he came in contact, either in business or social life, and he well deserved the high regard in which he was uniformly held.

JACOB J. FAW.

As an energetic and progressive farmer Jacob J. Faw has been actively identified with the development and upbuilding of Woodford county for over a third of a century, his home being on section 9, Linn township, since 1862. He was born in Monroe county, Indiana, August 22, 1832, a son of Jacob and Mary (Callaway) Faw, who were born, reared and married in North Carolina. On the paternal side he was of German descent. He has one uncle, John Faw, who was a soldier in the war of 1812. His maternal ancestors came to this country from England prior to the Revolutionary war and settled in Ashe county, North Carolina. After their marriage the parents of our subject continued to reside in their native state for a time, and then moved to Indiana, where Jacob J. was born, but in 1834 returned to North Carolina and located on the farm which they had previously occupied, making it their home throughout the remainder of their lives. The father was a farmer and

stock dealer and was a very successful man for those days. In religious belief both he and his wife were Baptists, and his father, Jacob Faw, was a minister of the Dunkard, or German Baptist church, at an early day. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Elijah Callaway, took a very active and prominent part in public affairs and represented his district in the state legislature many years.

Of the twelve children born to Jacob and Mary (Callaway) Faw, two died in infancy. The others were Martin, a Confederate soldier, who died from disease contracted in camp; Eli, who died near Jacksonville, Illinois, while moving to Missouri; Noah, who died at about the age of twenty-six years; Reuben, who lives at home in Ashe county, North Carolina, at the age of seventy-four; Matilda, deceased wife of Alfred Graypeel, of North Carolina; Caroline, deceased wife of Harvey Johnson; Jacob J., our subject; Mary A., wife of Winston Hartzog, of North Carolina; Amos, who died in Missouri; and Franklin, a resident of North Carolina. Farming has been the principal occupation of the family and all have been quite successful.

On the old homestead in North Carolina Jacob J. Faw grew to manhood and he acquired his education in the common schools of the neighborhood. In 1853 he came to Illinois and first located in Fulton county, where he found employment as a farm hand. Whil there he was married, in 1856, to Miss Drusilla Barker, who was born in that county, August 19, 1835, and they have become the parents of five children: Caroline is the wife of Pence Coble, of Newton, Kansas, and they now have one child, Ina. Marvin, a farmer and ex-assessor of Linn township, Woodford county, Illinois, is married and has seven children. Reuben, now serving as assessor of Linn township, is married and has four children. Mary is the wife of Columbus Raines, of Iowa. Franklin is at home assisting his father in the farm work.

Mr. Faw operated rented land in Fulton county for eight years, and in 1862 came to Woodford county and purchased his present place, for which he paid ten dollars per acre, although there were no improvements upon the place at that time. He erected buildings and immediately began to break and cultivate the land, converting it into a most desirable land. Having succeeded in his new home he has added to the original purchase and now owns one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 9, Linn township. He also operates another tract of one hundred and sixty acres, and carries on general farming and stock raising in a most profitable manner. He has given his children good common school educations and has always taken an active interest in promoting educational affairs. Politically Mr. Faw is a Republican, but has never been prevailed upon to accept or hold public office. In early life he and his wife united with the Baptist church and formerly took an active part in religious work.

PROF. BENJAMIN J. RADFORD.

Professor Benjamin J. Radford, dean of the Bible department of Eureka College and filling the chair of history and political science in the College of Arts, was born near the present city of Eureka, December 23, 1838. His parents, Benjamin and Frances (Lawrence) Radford, were both natives of Virginia and of English descent, the former born in Buckingham county, in 1797, the

latter in Louisa county, in 1804. With their respective parents they moved to Kentucky in the beginning of the nineteenth century, and were married in Christian county, in 1825. The grandfathers, Benjamin J. Radford and James Lawrence, were also natives of Virginia and farmers by occupation. In 1834 our subject's parents came to Illinois, and located near Eureka, in what was then a part of Tazewell county, but is now Woodford county. Here the father purchased a tract of government land, the deed for which, signed by President Van Buren, is now possession of our subject. The family underwent many hardships and privations incident to pioneer life, having to go a long distance to market, either to Peoria or Pekin. Meeting with success in his new home the father became the owner of several hundred acres of land and was quite extensively engaged in farming. He was one of the earliest members and officers of the Christian church, of Eureka, and gave liberally to its support and to the building of both the church and college. He was one of the first to become interested in the latter and was one of the charter members of the board of trustees, which erected the first building. He remained a member of the board until his death, which occurred in September, 1857, and at that time was also serving as deacon and treasurer of the church. Politically he was originally a Whig, and joined the Republican party on its organization. He was an anti-slavery man, but not an abolitionist, and left Kentucky on account of the baneful effect of slavery. His wife, who was a quiet member of the church, but a true Christian, died in October, 1864.

Professor Radford began his education in the common schools of Woodford county, and later attended Eureka College, from which he was graduated in 1866, but in the meantime he taught two district schools and also served his county for three years as a soldier of the Civil war. In May, 1861, at the President's first call for seventy-five thousand men, he enlisted in Company G, Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was first sent to St. Louis and later to St. Charles, Sulphur Springs and Cape Girardeau, being on the march the most of the first year. In the spring of 1862 they participated in the battle of Fort Donelson, followed by the battles of Shiloh and Corinth and the siege of Vicksburg, where they remained during the winter of 1863-4. In June of the latter year Professor Radford returned to Springfield, Illinois, where he was mustered out with the rank of corporal. He then re-entered college and was graduated in 1866.

Having prepared for the ministry, he engaged in preaching until the fall of 1870, one year as pastor of the Christian church at Niantic, Macon county, Illinois, where he dedicated a new church, and then became connected with the faculty of Eureka College, holding the chair of Latin and history. In 1881 he was called to the pastorate of a Christian church in Des Moines, Iowa, and was also made first president of Drake University, that city, filling that position until the fall of 1883, when he returned to Eureka College to take charge of the Bible department. He was also pastor of the Christian church in Eureka until 1885, when he was called to the Richmond Street Christian church at Cincinnati, Ohio, and became associate editor of the Christian Standard, which position he still holds. In 1890 he was made pastor of the Central Christian church at Denver, Colorado, but two years later returned to Eureka College and has

since been connected with the Bible department. He was elected dean in 1898, and also fills the chair of history and political science. For the past eight years he has been the owner of the "Eureka Journal," and is quite prominently identified with public affairs. He is a man of thoughtful, earnest purpose, of strong intellectual endowments, of broad charity and kindly nature, and by all denominations, as well as his own people, is held in the highest regard.

On the 15th of November, 1864, Professor Radford was united in marriage with Miss Rosa Magarity, a daughter of William S. Magarity, the first sheriff of Woodford county and captain of Company A, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war. They have a family of eight children, namely: Sadie, now Mrs. Wilson, of Cincinnati; William M., manager of the "Eureka Journal;" Charles T., pastor of the Christian church at Blackwell, Oklahoma; Nora, at home; Florence, now Mrs. Griffith, of Eureka; Benjamin J., Jr., Theta and Lawrence, all at home.

GEORGE HERMAN WILLEMS.

While some men's lives are quietly and peacefully spent within the inflences of a home, others meet with adventures in the course of their lives which read almost like a romance. Bold and adventurous, they penetrate into unknown lands, and meet unknown dangers. Among the latter class is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. For several years he traveled extensively over the world, but is now living a more quiet life in Roanoke, Illinois, where he is succesfully engaged in the manufacture of tile and brick.

Mr. Willems was born in Greetsiel, near Emden, Germany, July, 12, 1866, and was educated in the schools of his native land. At the age of fourteen he went to Wittenberg, where he served an apprenticeship to the machinist's trade for nearly three years, but on account of ill health was forced to abandon the shop before his time expired. He then returned home and remained there until his health was restored. He next went to sea as steward on the North German Lloyd line, sailing from Bremen to Antwerp, and from there to Lisbon, Portugal; the La Palmas Islands, St. Vincent Island, Rio Janeiro, Brazil and Santos, returning thence to Bremen the same way. He next went to Argentine Republic, and made fourteen trips on the Elbe, which was subsequently sunk in a collision. On the last trip with the North German Lloyd line he visited all the countries on the east coast of South America. He was next employed as fireman on the railroad for a short time in Argentine Republic. Later he went to Patagonia, from there to the Bahama Islands, then Buenas Ayres to Valparaiso, Chili, over the Los Andens. For a time he worked in a saltpeter mine at the Pampas, and from there went to Peru, where he boarded an American vessel for the first time, remaining on her for two years. She stopped at Port Townsend and Melbourne, Australia, then went to New Castle, Sidney, Port Piere, Australia, and from there to San Francisco. He has also been in Japan and China. For a time Mr. Willems was connected with the coast trade between San Francisco and Oregon, and then worked in Logan Camp, near Seattle, Washington, for a few months, after which he returned to sea. His last trip was on a five-mast schooner, the Governor Ames, which carried over one million

feet of lumber from Seattle around the Horn to Liverpool, England.

After visiting his old home in Germany, Mr. Willems then came to America, landing in New York, August 23, 1894. He first went to Baltimore, Maryland, where he remained a short time, but later in the same year came to Secor, Woodford county, Illinois, where he was employed in a tile factory for about two years. In 1898 he began the manufacture of brick and tile in Eureka on his own account, and in 1899 moved his machinery from that place to Roanoke, where he has since successfully carried on business, furnishing employment to from six to eleven hands. He uses the refuse shale and fire clay from the mines at this place, and manufactures all kinds of paving and building brick, roof and drain tile. He is a wide-awake, energtic business man, and has already met with substantial success in his new undertaking.

In 1899 Mr. Willems was united in marriage with Miss Ida Feen, a daughter of John Feen, of Roanoke. Mr. Willems is a very intelligent, well-informed man, and is able to speak several languages, including English, Norwegian, Spanish, low and high German. As a business man he is upright and honorable in all his dealings, and is held in high regard by the people of his community.

GARMER KLEEN.

Garmer Kleen, now living retired from the arduous labors to which he has been accustomed throughout life, is a worthy example of the patriotic German-American citizen. His career in this country, where he arrived a poor youth, unfriended and with little means, a stranger to the language and customs of our people, possesses much of interest and inspiration to the younger generations.

The birth of Garmer Kleen, one of the prominent farmers of Woodford county, occurred in Germany, December 3, 1838. His father, H. Kleen, born in 1789, departed this life in 1852, and the mother, whose maiden name was Jane Struck, died in Germany when in her seventy-third year, in 1872. They reared seven children, and of these our subject alone left the Fatherland. Henry died, unmarried, when about forty years old; Luban died at the age of sixty and left a wife and one child; Elliott departed this life when in his thirty-ninth year, and Ihulj, who died at sixty-three, left a family to mourn his loss; Rinste is the wife of George Uphoff, a German farmer, and Etie, wife of Henry Schultz, also resides in Germany.

From his boyhood, Garmer Kleen has been devoted to agricultural pursuits. In 1856 he embarked on a sailing vessel bound for the United States, and at the end of a four-weeks voyage arrived in New York city. Thence he proceeded to Peoria, and later went to Pekin, where he found employment in a brickyard. At the end of a year or more he rented some land and industriously set about its cultivation. When he had made a good beginning, he bought eighty acres of land in Woodford county, and from time to time, as his means permitted, made additional investments in farmlands. Now, in his declining years, he owns upwards of thirteen hundred acres of well improved property, about seven hundred acres being located in Clay county and the remainder in Woodford and Henry counties. "Diligence in business" has been the prime factor in his unusual success, and his indus-

try has been no more marked than his integrity and sterling justice. Thus those who are life-long acquaintances of his rejoice in the prosperity which crowned his toil, and no one envies his good fortune.

In 1868 Mr. Kleen married Dora Kalkwarf, who died within two years, as also did their little one. In 1872 our subject chose Trinche Johnson, a native of Germany, for a wife, and after twelve years of happy wedded life she was summoned to the home beyond. She was about forty years of age, and for a long time had been a faithful member of the Lutheran church. Harmon, their eldest child, is unmarried, and is a farmer of Henry county, Illinois, and Jane keeps house for him. Reka, who became the wife of Harmon Kelm, has two sons, Otto and Garmer. The younger children are Gretje, Henry, Dorothea and Jettie. In 1885 Mr. Kleen married Teelka, daughter of Klaas Frederichs, and three children bless this union, namely: Klaas, Garmer and Freadrig.

In his home Mr. Kleen is kind and affectionate, and it is a great pleasure to him to provide his dear ones with all the essentials to their comfort and happiness. With his wife he is identified with the Lutheran church, and contributes liberally to religious work. Quietly he has pursued the pathway of right, as far as he knew it, and undoubtedly his influence has ever been salutary and wholesome in his community .

WILLIAM H. BOCOCK.

There is probably no man in Washburn wider or more favorably known than William H. Bocock, who has made his home in Woodford county since 1852, and is recognized as one of the important factors in its progress and development. For many years he was actively identified with its agricultural and business interests, but has now laid aside all business cares and is enjoying the fruits of former toil.

Mr. Bocock was born in Highland county, Ohio, March 12, 1835, and is a son of George W. and Martha (Adams) Bocock, natives of Virginia and Ohio, respectively. In 1836 they brought their family to Illinois and first located in Fulton county, where the father took up land and engaged in farming until 1852, when he removed to Woodford county, settling on a tract of government land in Linn township, which he improved and transformed into a good farm. There he died in 1875, his wife in 1863, honored and respected by all who knew them. To this worthy couple were born ten children, as follows: Mrs. Ellen Johnson, of Canton, Illinois; Hannah, who died in Benson, Woodford county; Mrs. Sarah Spencer, of Fairbury, Illinois; Melissa, who died in Fulton county; John, who served one year as a member of Company H, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil war, and died in Linn township, Woodford county, in 1874; Mrs. Martha Rann, of Fairfield, Iowa; Mrs. Melissa Fisher, of Nebraska; Joseph, who enlisted at Minonk in the Forty-seventh Illinois Regiment and died in the service, at Jefferson City, Missouri, in 1862; Maria, who died in Fulton county, Illinois; and William H., of this review.

William H. Bocock was reared and educated in Fulton county, and in 1852 came to Woodford county. He was successfully engaged in farming in Linn township until 1885, when he moved to Washburn and embarked in the agricultural implement busi-

ness, which he carried on for six years, but since that time has lived a retired life.

At Canton, Fulton county, Mr. Bocock was married, November 30, 1865, to Miss Julia Johnson, a daughter of Richard and Katie (Fouts) Johnson, the former a native of Norath Carolina, the later of Virginia. They were among the pioneers of Fulton county, having located there when the Indians were far more numerous in that locality than the white settlers, and there the father developed and improved a farm. Both parents died in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Bocock have three children: Mrs. Ida Bird, a resident of Aspen, Colorado; Stephen, who is married and lives in Washburn, Illinois; and Mrs. Cora Streeper, of Fairbury, this state.

Mr. Bocock joined the boys in blue during the Civil war, enlisting at Minonk, in September, 1861, serving for three years or during the war, as a member of Company H, Seventy-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered into the United States service at Peoria, where the regiment was assigned to the Army of the West, and participated in many engagements, including sixteen regular battles, the siege of Vicksburg, Mobile, Fort Morgan and Blakesly, and the Red river expedition. At Vicksburg he received a gunshot wound and was also injured by the explosion of a shell. The war having ended and his services being no longer needed, he was honorably discharged at Mobile, July 10, 1865, and returned to his home in Woodford county. He is now an honored member of Woodruff Post, No. 321, G. A. R., and by his ballot he supports the men and measures of the Republican party. He also belongs to Washburn Lodge, No. 421, F. & A. M., and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. In all of life's relations he has been found true to every trust reposed in him, and his patriotism and loyalty to country has never been doubted.

FRANK E. LEARNED.

This well known and popular druggist and the present mayor of Benson, Illinois, is a native of Woodford county, born in Clayton township, June 8, 1862, and is a son of Frank D. and Rosa (Fisher) Learned, natives of New Hampshire and Vermont, respectively. Our subject's paternal grandparents, Harvey and Elvira (Derby) Learned, were also natives of New Hampshire, and the former was a farmer by occupation and a man of considerable influence in his community. He was a delegate to the national convention that nominated General William H. Harrison for president, and cast his last vote for that gentleman's grandson, Benjamin Harrison. He lived to the advanced age of ninety-three years.

In 1855 our subject's father, Frank D. Learned, came to Illinois, having previously taught school in New Hampshire and Massachusetts and for two years in Delaware. In this state he worked as a farm hand at Lee Center, Lee county, for three years, and for the same length of time was similarly employed in Woodford county. He then purchased eighty acres of railroad land on section 18, Clayton township, where he made his home until 1873, when he moved to Benson, becoming one of the first settlers of the village, and serving as the first postmaster, which office he held for nine years. He established a drug store and carried it on until 1888, when he sold out to our subject, and for a time engaged in the hotel and

livery business, but for the past four years has lived a retired life in Los Angeles, California. As a Republican he has always taken an active interest in political affairs; has been a delegate to county, district and state conventions, and in 1888 was an alternate delegate to the national convention of his party. He has filled many local offices, for thirty-five years, such as justice of the peace and notary public, and was one of the successful and progressive men of Benson. Religiously he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church. On the 10th of October, 1861, he married Rosa Fisher, and to them were born three children: Frank E., our subject; Grant S., who married Arvilla Coleman and is engaged in farming in Marshall county, Illinois; and Lydia C., who died at the age of six years in Delaware, October 1, 1876.

Frank E. Learned began his education in the home schools, and later attended Eureka College, at Eureka, and Wesleyan College, at Bloomington, Illinois, taking a classical course. After one year spent at the latter institution he returned home and entered his father's drug store, where he took up the study of pharmacy. In 1888 he purchased the store, and has since carried it on with marked success. He carries a full line of drugs, paints, wall paper, books, stationery and novelties, and is enjoying a good trade.

On the 8th of May, 1888, Mr. Learned was united in marriage with Miss Mattie Huxtable, also a native of Woodford county. His father, James Huxtable, who was born in England, took up his residence here in 1854, and was successfully engaged in farming in Greene township until 1886, when he removed to Benson and lived retired until his death, which occurred in September, 1894. He was a large land owner and left his family in comfortable circumstances. His widow is still living in Benson. Of their fifteen children, Mrs. Learned is the eleventh in order of birth. Our subject and his wife have two children: Dana H. and Elsie T., both attending the home schools. The parents are both active members of the Methodist Episcopal church and teachers in the Sunday school, and Mr. Learned is also a trustee of the church.

He cast his first presidential vote for James G. Blaine in 1884, and has always affiliated with the Republican party. He is a member of the township central committee and has been a delegate to numerous conventions. Since attaining his majority he has taken an active interest in local affairs and has filled various offices, serving as town clerk three years; postmaster of Benson five years from 1889; village trustee six years; and in 1900 was elected mayor, which office he is now filling in a most creditable and satisfactory manner.

JAMES CASTNER IRVING.

There are few men in Metamora in the past decade who have done more for its commercial interests and its growth and development than the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He has cheerfully given his support to those enterprises that tend to public advancement and, with hardly an exception, he has been connected with every interest that has promoted general welfare.

A native of Woodford county, Mr. Irving was born in Metamora, December 10, 1850, and by his many friends in this vicinity he is familiarly known as "Cass."

His father, David Irving, was born in Somerset county, New Jersey, in 1820, and was a son of James Irving, a native of the same county, and grandson of Daniel Irving, who was born in Scotland and came to the new world in colonial days, being one of the early settlers of Somerset county, New Jersey, where in the midst of the wilderness he made for his family a home. He was a commissioned officer in a New Jersey regiment in the colonial wars, and lived to the advanced age of one hundred years. Our subject's grandfather, James Irving, a carpenter, joiner and farmer of Somerset county, died at the age of ninety.

In his native state David Irving grew to manhood and learned the brickmason's trade, which he followed there for several years. In 1839 he came to Illinois and first located at Jacksonville, where he worked at his trade, assisting in the erection of a number of business houses and public buildings, including the deaf and dumb asylum. In 1844 he contracted to build the court house at Metamora and so came to Woodford county, where he started a brickyard, manufacturing the brick used in its construction. This building was used as a court house for over half a century, or until the county seat was moved to Eureka, and is now the Metamora opera house. As a contractor and builder David Irving was one of the leading business men of the place for some years, and did much toward improving and developing Woodford county. He was called upon to serve his fellow citizens in numerous positions of trust and responsibility, including the office of sheriff. Politically he was a stanch supporter of the men and measures of the Democratic party. He died in Metamora, June 6, 1898, honored and respected by all who knew him. He married Miss Esther E. Perry, a native of Chester county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Benjamin F. Perry. By this union were born three children who reached years of maturity, namely: Percival, who died at his home in Metamora; Eugene Douglas, a farmer of Worth township, Woodford county; and James Castner, our subject.

James C. Irving received his primary education in the common schools of Metamora and at the age of thirteen began his business career as a clerk in the grocery store of James F. Earl, where he was employed for several years. Later he attended the preparatory department of Eureka College during the fall and winter terms for two years, struggling to support himself and pay his way by working at anything which he could find to do, sawing wood after night to pay for a set of bookkeeping books. In the summer of 1869 he returned to Metamora and for two years was employed as clerk in the grocery store of C. Rohman. In October, 1871, he commenced work for Fisher & Gibson, under the direction of John F. Fuller, an expert abstractor of titles, to prepare a complete set of abstract books of Woodford county, but the firm soon failed, and in February, 1872, he entered the office of the "Woodford Sentinel," where he began at the bottom, learned the printer's trade and worked his way upward until he became foreman of the office, having full charge of the local department until 1880, when he accepted the position of deputy circuit clerk, serving as such eight years and becoming thoroughly familiar with the duties of the office. He was then elected circuit clerk by the largest majority ever given a county officer in Woodford county, and filled that position in a most creditable and satisfac-

tory manner for four years. At the end of that time he refused to become a candidate for re-election though urged to do so. He was then appointed master in chancery, a position he held for the same length of time, and could have been holding yet so far as his ability to perform the work was concerned and the endorsement of the bar could have prevailed, never having been overruled in any of his decisions and having been fully sustained by the supreme court in every important case after most desperate struggles on the part of eminent attorneys. In 1892 Mr. Irving embarked in the real estate and loan business, in which he has met with remarkable success, and to which he now gives his entire time and attention.

On the 11th of January, 1877, Mr. Irving was united in marriage with Mrs. Carrie S. Kern, a daughter of F. F. and Caroline (Starrett) Hirsch, of Metamora. She was born in Suncook, New Hampshire, but was reared and educated in Woodford county, Illinois.

Politically Mr. Irving is a stanch Democrat, and an active worker for his party's interests. During the fight for the removal of the county seat to Eureka he stood firmly by his native township, and in the territory assigned to him did effective work, as the vote still shows. On its removal he said to a few friends who met him after the final decision had been made: "Well, boys, there is no use to cry; it has gone; now let us put our shoulders to the wheel and give old Metamora a boom and we can have a good town yet." Mr. Irving is accredited as father of the water works of Metamora, having been the original agitator of the system for fire protection and drawing the plans for the same, which he furnished free of cost to the town. For four successive terms he served as mayor and never were the reins of city government in more capable hands, for he is pre-eminently public-spirited and progressive, and gives his support to all measures for the public good. In July, 1900, he was unanimously appointed supervisor of his township to succeed D. M. Owen, deceased, and is now acceptably filling that office. He is one of the best posted men of the town, and as a genial, pleasant gentleman, he has become one of its most popular citizens. He has a large collection of minerals, petrifications, Indian relics and various other curiosities in his office, and this museum of interest is open and free to all.

S. H. WORTHINGTON.

Among the prominent business men of El Paso is numbered S. H. Worthington, a leading dry goods merchant of tat place. He was born in Brooke county, West Virginia, August 23, 1842, and is a son of Rev. S. G. J. and Mary (Hedges) Worthington, natives of Maryland and Virginia, respectively. His paternal grandfather, Nicholas Worthington, was also a native of Maryland and a planter by occupation. He moved to West Virginia when his son was about ten years old and located in Brooke county, where the latter grew to manhood. He received a good collegiate education and at an early day entered the ministrty of the Methodist Episcopal church, to which he devoted fifty years of his life. He was pastor of churches in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, and Wheeling, West Virginia, and was presiding elder of a district in the former state, his residence being at Clarksburg. In 1857 he came west and first located in Tazewell coun-

ty, Illinois. He was the pastor of the First Methodist church of Rock Island two years, and later of the First church in Peoria, after which he preached in Geneseo, Omarga and other places in the state. He was a presiding elder for eight years in the Central Illinois conference, and as a superanuated preacher lived retired the last two years of his life at El Paso, where he died September 29, 1883, at the age of seventy-five years. His wife survived him some time, dying December 22, 1895, at the age of eighty-nine years. In politics he was a Republican.

To this worthy couple were born seven children, and all but one reached years of maturity. N. E., a resident of Peoria, has served as judge of the circuit court and a member of congress two terms, and is one of the best known men of Illinois. He married Elizabeth Fouchs and they have five children. Jennie married J. W. Coates, and died in Clearwater, Minnesota, at the age of thirty years, leaving four children. S. H., our subject, is next in order of birth. Mary E. is the wife of George E. Hubbel, a leading attorney of Davenport, Iowa. Emma L. is the wife of George Cunningham, of Mannington, West Virginia. Ella died in Genesee, Illinois, at the age of nineteen years.

Our subject was educated in the high schools of Peoria. The Civil war having broken out, he entered the army at the age of nineteen years, enlisting in Company C, Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, under Captain J. D. McClure and Colonel John Bryner. The regiment was mustered into the United States service at Springfield, in September, 1862, and assigned to the Army of the Mississippi. They went first to St. Louis, and from there to Jefferson City, where they remained until the spring of 1863, when they went to Otterville and from there to St. Charles, Missouri. Taking the boat they proceeded to Pittsburg Landing, and took part in the battle of Corinth, where Lieutenant-Colonel Miles was killed. The summer was spent in Mississippi, during which time they participated in the second battle of Corinth and the siege of Vicksburg. They were with Banks in his expedition up the Red river, and took part in the battle of Iuka. On transports they went to Nachez, and in the spring of 1864 took part in the engagements at Big Black river and Jackson, Mississippi. During the siege of Vicksburg Mr. Worthington's brigade dug a canal around that city. His term of enlistment having expired, he returned to Memphis, where he was mustered out, and was discharged at Springfield, Illinois, in September, 1865. During his last year he served as quartermaster's clerk under Brigade Quartermaster Thomas Pickerell, of General J. A. Mower's brigade.

After his return to civil life Mr. Worthington taught the Deer Creek school, Tazewell county, and the Mossville school, Peoria county. In the fall of 1867 he moved to a farm in El Paso township, Woodford county, belonging to his father, and operated the place one year. He entered the employ of J. P. Ferrell, at El Paso, and worked for him three years, at the end of which time he went to Fort Worth, Texas, where he was engaged in the hotel business one year. On his return north he engaged in farming near Onarga, Illinois, one year and from there went to Wichita, Kansas, where he followed the same pursuit one year. Disposing of his property there he returned to El Paso, where he was engaged in the notion business for eight years in partnership with R. C. Springgate, under the firm name of

S. H. Worthington & Company. On account of ill health he sold his interest in the business to S. M. Ferrell and went to Colorado, where he carried on the real estate business one year. Since then he has made his home uninterruptedly in El Paso, and has engaged in the dry goods business alone, occupying a double store room and carrying a large and well-selected stock of merchandise. He is a wide-awake, progressive business man, and is meeting with excellent success.

January 20, 1869, Mr. Worthington was united in marriage with Miss Sadie M. Ferrell, who died eighteen months later. Their only child, George, died in infancy. For his second wife Mr. Worthington married Miss Jennie Carleton, a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of F. W. Carleton, who died in El Paso. By this union were born two children, Helen and Major Henry, both graduates of the El Paso high school. The daughter is now a trained nurse and was with the army at Chickamauga, but is now at home. The son completed a four years' course at the Northwestern Medical College, in Chicago, in 1900.

Mr. and Mrs. Worthington are both active members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he has been a trustee for many years, and he is also connected with S. T. Rogers Post, No. 531, G. A. R., of which he is senior past commander. Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, he has affiliated with the Republican party, but has never cared for political honors.

CHARLES H. GISH.

The subject of this personal narration is one of the most enterprising and public-spirited citizens of Roanoke, of which thriving village he is now efficiently serving as mayor and also as a member of the school board. He is a native of Woodford county, born in Roanoke township, south of the village, April 27, 1867, and is a son of George W. and Sarah Jane (Ruddell) Gish, both natives of Roanoke, Virginia. In 1850 they came to Illinois and took up their residence about one mile south of the present town of Roanoke, where the father pre-empted a tract of government land on the southwest quarter of section 23, Roanoke township, for which he paid a dollar and a quarter per acre. He was one of the early settlers from Roanoke, Virginia, who gave to the township its name. Here he followed farming for many years, but in 1890 sold his place and moved to Greene township, where he made his home until called from this life, October, 1894. For forty years he served as a minister of the United Brethren church, and by his upright, honorable life gained the confidence and respect of all who knew him. After his death his widow made her home with her children until she departed this life, November 7, 1896.

This worthy couple had twelve children, namely: T. W., now sheriff of Woodford county; Lydia, wife of J. L. Brown, of Boise City, Idaho; W. B., a resident of Oklahoma; Bessie, wife of J. D. Kendig, of Gilman, Illinois; Addie and Emma, twins, the former of whom is the wife of T. A. Robinson, of Mansfield, Illinois; the latter the wife of C. L. Moore, of North Dakota; James L., who died in 1893; Maggie, wife of Ross Polhemus, of Secor, Illinois; Charles, our subject; Ed G. and Oscar J., twins, the former a resident of Roanoke, the latter of Greene township; and Calvin, deputy sheriff of the county and a resident of Roanoke.

The boyhood and youth of Charles H.

Gish were passed in his native township, and at the age of twenty years he commenced work at the carpenter's trade, at which he worked uninterruptedly for nine years, and then entered the employ of the Roanoke Coal & Mining Company in that capacity. On the 1st of December, 1898, he was appointed top foreman and is now filling that responsible position with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the company. He was married August 4, 1896, to Miss Maggie Wilson, of Roanoke, a daughter of the late John G. Wilson, and to them has been born one child, George W. Politically Mr. Gish is an ardent Democrat, and since attaining his majority has taken a very active and prominent part in public affairs. He has served as village clerk two terms, and in the spring of 1900 was elected mayor, which office he is now filling in a most acceptable manner. He is also a member of the board of school directors.

R. EARL GORDON, M. D.

One of the most exacting of all the higher lines of occupation to which a man may lend his energies is that of the physician. A most scrupulous preliminary training is demanded, a nicety of judgment but little understood by the laity. Dr. Gordon, of El Paso, is well fitted for the profession which he has chosen as a life work, and his skill and ability have won him a large and lucrative practice.

A native of Illinois, he was born in Carlyle, Clinton county, September 5, 1872, and belongs to a family which has had many prominent representatives in the medical profession. His paternal great-grandfather was a native of Edinburg, Scotland, and the founder of the family in America. The grandfather, James Gordon, was a physician and had two brothers, one of whom was a prominent attorney, the other a physician of Texas. He had seven sons who engaged in the practice of medicine, and two daughters who married physicians. At one time members of the family to the number of fifteen formed a medical society of their own. The grandfather was engaged in practice for sixty-five years, a part of this time being spent at Little Rock, Arkansas. In 1865 he removed to Bond county, Illinois, where he made his home until his death in 1896.

Dr. J. T. Gordon, our subject's father, was born in Jackson, Mississippi, September 5, 1848, and was the sixth son in his father's family. He was a graduate of the Missouri Medical College at St. Louis, and also of the St. Louis Medical College. As a general practitioner and surgeon, he was engaged in practice at Carlyle, Illinois, for eighteen years prior to his death, which occurred June 19, 1887, when he was thirty-eight years of age. Both he and his father were prominent Masons, and he was a supporter of the Republican party. While living in the South during the Civil war three of his brothers were forced to serve in the Confederate army, though their sympathies were with the North. Through the assistance of his mother he managed to escape and come north. In their church relations the family have been prominent Methodists. Dr. J. T. Gordon first married Miss M. A. Ellegood, who was born in Pocahontas, Illinois, and was of Scotch and English descent. She died in 1876, and of the three children born of this union two died in early childhood, leaving our subject the only survivor. In 1878 the father married Miss S. F. Challis, also of Pocahontas, by whom he had four children, who grew to maturity: Lula, Ed-

win, William and Harry, who are living with their mother in Carlyle.

In the public schools of his native city Dr. R. E. Gordon acquired his early education, and took the teacher's examination for first and second grade certificates, receiving ninety-eight per cent in both. At the age of sixteen he entered the McKendree University at Lebanon, Illinois, which was founded by Bishop McKendree in 1826, and there he took a preparatory course for the study of medicine. He was next a student at the Missouri Medical College in St. Louis, where he pursued a three-years course and was graduated in 1893. He also spent two and a half years in hospital and clinical work in that city, and was thus well fitted for his profession before he entered upon private practice. He spent one year in Benson, and in the fall of 1894 came to El Paso, where he has built up an excellent practice, amounting to about six thousand dollars per year. He is a general practitioner, but makes a specialty of surgery and the diseases of the eye. The Doctor has purchased property in El Paso, and in 1898 erected a beautiful residence with all modern improvements, costing about four thousand dollars. It is one of the finest homes in the place.

On the 8th of July, 1894, Dr. Gordon was united in marriage with Miss Della C. Chappelle, who was born in Rollo, Missouri, in 1872, and they have become the parents of one son, Virgil C., born January 27, 1890. In his political views the Doctor is a Republican, and in religious belief a Methodist, though he gives to the support of all churches. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason, and a member of the Uniform Rank, Knights of Pythias. For five years he has held the office of consul in the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 168, and has also served as examining physician and a delegate to the head camp. He is a member and examining physician for the Royal Neighbors and the Court of Honor, and is also examining physician for several old line insurance companies. He is ever ready to do his part in everything that will tend to the advancement of his city and county, and therefore has many friends who esteem him for his worth as a man as well as a physician. Among his professional brethren he has gained an enviable reputation.

JUDGE A. M. CAVAN.

Judge A. M. Cavan, ex-county judge of Woodford county, and one of the most prominent attorneys of this section of the state, was born in Franklin county, Pennsylvania, May 13, 1838, and is a son of Thomas B. and Mary E. (Wertz) Cavan, also natives of Pennsylvania, and the former of Irish, the latter of German descent. Our subject's paternal grandfather was a native of Ireland, his ancestors being the founders of County Cavan and large land owners there. At an early day he came to America and settled in Pennsylvania. The Judge's father was born there in 1801, and in early life learned the spinner's trade in woolen mills of his native state, where he continued to work until 1845, when he removed with his family to Madison, Indiana, residing there until the fall of 1851. The following two years were passed in Springfield, Illinois, and from there he went to Canton, this state, to take charge of the woolen mills of John G. Piper, remaining there until 1860. For three years he engaged in farming upon rented land in Fulton county, and then came to Woodford county and purchased a farm in Greene

township, upon which he made his home until called from this life February 16, 1886, at the age of eighty-five years. His wife died February 9, 1876, at the age of sixty-eight years. In politics he was a Republican, and in religious belief a Dunkard, taking an active part in church affairs. Of his thirteen children, only six reached maturity, namely: Maria, wife of A. J. Waugh, of Chatsworth, Illinois; Barbara, wife of Philip R. Wertz, of Florida; Allinson M., our subject; William H., a successful grocer of Ellwood, Indiana; Oliver A., general agent for the Hall Safe Company, who died in March, 1891, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, where he made his home; and Nelvin, R., who is engaged in the grocery business with his brother in Ellwood, Indiana.

During his boyhood and youth Judge Cavan accompanied his parents on their various removals, and was educated in the public schools of Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, in Paris, Jefferson county, Indiana, and of this state. He assisted his father on the home farm until he attained his majority, when he entered Lombard College, at Galesburg, and pursued the law course one year. He was then a student in the law office of Harper, Cassell & Ingersoll at El Paso, Colonel Ingersoll being actively engaged in practice there at that time. Our subject was reading law when the firm when the Colonel lost the nomination for governor in 1868, and took the stump for Palmer who received the nomination. In 1867 Judge Cavan was admitted to the bar at Metamora, and immediately opened an office at El Paso. He was appointed deputy revenue assessor for the sixth division of the eighth district, in 1869, and filled that position until the fall of 1870, when he was elected to the twenty-seventh general assembly from the district, then comprising Marshall, Putnam, Bureau and Woodford counties. After serving one term he was tendered the nomination for state senator, but refused to accept the nomination. While a member of the house he was on the committee on the Illinois river and canal and took an active part in legislation pertaining to the canal. He was also on the committees on federal relations and state library and it was during this time that a revision of all the state laws was made. The Judge was the man who proposed to change the state capitol and put the resolution before the house. This brought on one of the greatest fights in that body.

After serving one term Judge Cavan returned to El Paso and resumed practice. In the fall of 1883 he was elected city attorney and held that office until April, 1887, when he resigned, having been appoined postmaster by President Cleveland. He served as such until the fall of 1890, when he resigned to accept the more important position of county judge, and after filling the latter office most acceptably for four years, he was re-elected by an increased majority, his last term expiring in December, 1898. In 1898 he declined the offer of nomination of both the Republican and Democratic parties. Only one of the many cases tried by him was appealed and his decision in this was affirmed in the appellate court, the case involving the power of foreign corporations in the state of Illinois. He is thoroughly versed in the law, and never at a loss for a precedent. He is eminently gifted with the capabilities of mind which are indispensable at the bar, and is a man of deep research and careful investigation, whose skill and ability has won him a liberal patronage.

On the 17th of March, 1863, Judge Cavan was united in marriage with Miss Anna

Rule, also a native of Pennsylvania, and the youngest in a family of seven children. Her father, William Rule, was born in Pennsylvania, and at an early day moved to Ogle county, Illinois. The Judge and his wife have six children, namely: May, wife of Lee Lambert, who is engaged in farming near Earlville, Illinois; Josephine, a professional nurse residing at home; William T., who is engaged in the loan and real estate business in Minneapolis; John A., at home; Hattie, wife of Lewis Robeson, of El Paso; and Ida, who is cashier in a ladies' emporium in Minneapolis, and makes her home with her brother. Mrs. Cavan and the children are members of the Christian church.

Fraternally the Judge is a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge, No. 819, and the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 168, both of El Paso; and was on the committee of laws and ritual of the head camp of the latter order for a number of years. He is also connected with Hugh De Payne Lodge, No. 241, K. P., of which he is past chancellor, and which he has represented in the grand lodge. He has served a number of times as a delegate to the various conventions of the Democratic party, and is regarded as one of the most prominent and influential citizens of his community.

BENJAMIN GROVE.

Benjamin Grove, a well-known retired farmer residing on section 25, Worth township, has been a resident of Woodford county for over sixty-five years, and is therefore numbered among its honored pioneers. The difference between the past and the present can scarcely be realized, even by those who have been active participants in the development of the county. The present generation can have no conception of what was required by the early settlers in transforming the wilderness into a well settled and highly cultivated county.

Mr. Grove was born in Augusta county, Virginia, March 28, 1816, a son of Simon and Elizabeth (Rinehart) Grove, both natives of Pennsylvania, the former born in Lancaster county. In 1816, during the infancy of our subject they removed to Harrison county, Indiana, where the father cleared and improved a good farm. He became quite prosperous, but by going security for others, he lost everything and was forced to begin life anew. In 1835 he came to Woodford county, Illinois, making the trip with an ox team. Industrious, persevering and enterprising, he succeeded in accumulating a nice property here, and was accounted a successful farmer, as well as one of the highly esteemed men of the community. Both he and his wife died in Woodford county, though the latter survived him several years.

Benjamin Grove was a young man of nineteen years when he came to Woodford county with his parents in 1835, and he entered a forty-acre tract of government land, to which he later added forty acres purchased from his father, and still later tracts of eighty and twenty acres adjoining, making the fine farm of one hundred and eighty acres which he now owns. For a half century he actively engaged in the cultivation of his farm, but is now living a retired life, enjoying the fruits of former toil.

On the 5th of October, 1843, in Woodford county, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Grove and Miss Hannah Rinehart, who was also born in Augusta county, Vir-

BENJAMIN GROVE.

MRS. HANNAH GROVE.

ginia, of German ancestry, and was reared there. She died May 5, 1886. Of the six children born of this union, four are still living, namely: Washington is now a resident of Rice county, Kansas, and is married and has five children: Ella, Lizzie, William, Jacob and Nellie. Ella and Lizzie are both married and have children, Bertha and Nera, respectively, making Mr. Grove a great-grandfather. William H., who operates a part of the home farm, married Ann Lindenfelser, and to them were born four children, Anna, Benjamin and Bessie, all living, and Dessie, who died in infancy. Sarah Elizbeth is now her father's housekeeper. Elias A., living on the home farm, was married December 15, 1887, to Magdaline Lindenfelser, a native of Tazewell county, Illinois, and a daughter of Francis Lindenfelser, who was born in Germany. They have two children, Philip and Orville, both in school. Nancy Jane, daughter of our subject, married John Woodcock, and is now deceased.

Politically Mr. Grove was first a Whig and cast his first vote for "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," in 1840. Since the dissolution of that party he has been identified with the Republicans, but has never cared for political preferment. In early life he united with the Christian church at Washington, Illinois, and later transferred his membership to the church at Matamora. The children were reared in that church, but since it was abandoned the family have attended the union services at Metamora. Mr. Grove has witnessed almost the entire growth and development of Woodford county. When he located here wolves, wild deer, wild geese and turkeys were plentiful, but all have now disappeared; the swamps have been drained and converted into well cultivated fields; and the county has become one of the richest agricultural districts in the state. In the work of progress and advancement Mr. Grove has borne his part, and is justly entitled to prominent mention among the honored pioneers and representative citizens of the community.

FRANCIS F. BRIGGS.

This well known undertaker has for almost half a century been identified with the business interests of Metamora, Illinois, and is numbered among its leading and representative citizens. He is a native of the old Bay state, his birth having occurred in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, February 21, 1825. His father, Francis Briggs, was also born in Massachusetts, in 1794, and there married Betsy Hakes, a daughter of James Hakes, who belonged to one of the oldest families of that state. For many years the father of our subject followed farming in Berkshire county, and then removed to New York. After spending seven years in Cayuga county, that state, he moved to Chautauqua county, New York, where he made his home upon a farm throughout the remainder of his life, though he died while on a visit in Ohio in 1844. His wife survived him nearly thirty years, dying on the old homestead in Chautauqua county, in 1874.

Frank Briggs, as our subject is familiarly known, grew to manhood on the home farm in New York, and received but limited school advantages during his youth. When a young man he went to Georgetown, Brown county, Ohio, where he served a four-years apprenticeship to the cabinetmaker's trade, and also gained an excellent knowledge of the undertking business, to which he devoted

his time of evenings and Sundays. Later he worked as a journeyman for three years, and then conducted a shop of his own at Georgetown for two years. Selling out in 1851 he came to Metamora, Illinois, and engaged in the manufacture of furniture, opening a shop of his own in 1854.

During the Civil war Mr. Briggs laid aside all personal interests to enter the service of his country. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee. He entered the service as a private, but at the second election on the organization of the regiment at Peoria, was elected first lieutenant and served in that capacity until taken ill, when on the advice of the army surgeon he resigned early in the year 1863. His first engagement was at Chickasaw Bayou, Mississippi, and he also took part in the battle of Arkansas Post. On receiving his discharge Mr. Briggs returned home and resumed the furniture and undertaking business, which he carried on until 1875. He has since given his exclusive attention to undertaking and embalming, being a practical embalmer, and he receives a liberal share of the public patronage. On first coming to Metamora he bought a lot and erected a residence and shop, where he has now carried on business for over forty years.

In December, 1847, in Brown county, Ohio, Mr. Briggs married Miss Clarissa Stitt, who was born and reared in Georgetown, a daughter of Joseph K. Stitt, a native of Kentucky. She died of smallpox April 13, 1872, and was laid to rest in Oakwood cemetery. Mr. Briggs was again married, July 30, 1874, his second union being with Elizabeth A. Compton, a native of Kentucky, who came to Woodford county, Illinois, at the age of thirteen years, and was reaerd near Eureka. This wife died in 1898. By the first union Mr. Briggs had five children: Hattie E., wife of William Mitchell, of Ashville, North Carolina; Alice E., who is now her father's housekeeper; J. F., a farmer of Ford county, Illinois; William K., a carpenter and joiner, who is now assisting his father in the undertaking business; and Ed C., also a carpenter and joiner of Woodford county. By the last marriage there is one daughter, Nellie A., who is successfully engaged in teaching music and resides at home.

From youth up Mr. Briggs has been a strong temperance man, never using intoxicants in any form, and for years he has been a stanch suporter of the Prohibition party. He cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont in 1856, and was identified with the Republican party some years. He efficiently served as village trustee several years, being always elected on the temperance ticket. He has been a life-long Methodist and now supports the union service at Metamora, while both daughters are active workers in the Christian Endeavor Society and Sunday school. A man of most exemplary habits and strict integrity, he has the confidence and esteem of all, and is well worthy of representation in a work of this kind.

JOHN A. IVINS.

This well known retired farmer of Cazenovia, Illinois, and honored veteran of the Civil war, was born in Tyler county, Ohio, in April, 1837, a son of Samuel and Phœbe Ivins. The father, who was a native of Pennsylvania and a pioneer of Ohio, moved to

Indiana in 1844, and there spent the remainder of his life, dying in that state in 1865. The mother died in Indiana before the family left that state. They had seven children, namely: Margaret, deceased; Delilah, of Arkansas; David, of Low Point, Woodford county, Illinois; John A., our subject; Henry, of Arkansas; George, who served through the war in the same company and regiment as our subject and is now a resident of Wabash, Indiana; and Abbie, also of Indiana.

John A. Ivins accompanied the family on their removal to Indiana, where he was reared and educated. When the war of the Rebellion broke out he offered his services to his country, enlisting at Indianapolis, July 15, 1861, for three years, in Company D, Eighteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was mustered into the United States service at that place and assigned to the Western army. He participated in the battles of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and Springfield, Missouri, the siege of Vicksburg, and the engagement at Jackson, Mississippi. He was also on a scouting expedition in Texas, and took part in the Red river campaign. During the siege of Vicksburg he was wounded three times, being shot through the shoulder and wrist, and receiving another gunshot wound in the back. He was confined in the hospital at Jefferson City, Missouri, for some time. In 1864 he re-enlisted for three years or during the war, in the same company and regiment, which this time was assigned to the Eastern army, and he took part in the battle of Petersburg and the mine explosion, and then joined General Sherman in time for the Carolina campaign. Hostilities having ceased, he was honorably discharged at Savannah, Georgia, on the 28th of August, 1865, and was paid off at Indianapolis, Indiana.

In Jennings county, Indiana, Mr. Ivins was married, in 1867, to Miss Nancy Anna Ball, a native of that county, and a daughter of Samuel and Minerva (McFarland) Ball, who came to Woodford county, Illinois, in 1878, and settled in Cazenovia township. They died in the township of Cazenovia. Mr. and Mrs. Ivins have six children, namely: Mrs. Elizabeth Barnes, a resident of Partridge township, Woodford county; Mrs. Martha McFarland, of Iroquois county, Illinois; George, who is married and lives at Low Point, Woodford county; Mrs. Emma Ivins, of Cazenovia; and Robert and Ora, both at home.

In 1874 Mr. Ivins left his old home in Indiana and came to Woodford county, Illinois. He was successfully engaged in farming in Cazenovia township until his retirement from active labor. He now owns a fine residence and sixteen lots in the village of Cazenovia, where he makes his home. He is a supporter of the men and measures of the Republican party, and takes an active interest in promoting the welfare of his town and county, encouraging and aiding all enterprises tending to benefit the public. He enjoys in a high degree the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens, and well merits their respect.

EDWIN A. CHILDS.

Since 1856 Edwin A. Childs has been prominently identified with the interests of Woodford county, and is now efficiently serving as supervisor of El Paso township. He was born in Jennings county, Indiana,

May 6, 1840, a son of Henry and Polly (Howard) Childs, natives of Massachusetts and New York respectively. On the paternal side he is of English and rench descent, and on the maternal of English and Scotch extraction. His parents were married in New York, and in 1838 moved to Indiana among its pioneers, but four years later returned to New York. In 1856 they came to Illinois and took up their residence in Woodford county, where the mother died in 1884. The father then returned to his old home in the Empire state, where he died in 1888, but his remains were brought back to Illinois and buried by the side of his wife. He was a very well educated man, and successfully engaged in school teaching and farming. In politics he was a stanch Republican. His children were Edwin A., our subject; Albert, who died in 1871; Oscar, an attorney of Boston, Massachusetts; and Mary, wife of Edwin Stowell, a farmer of New York state. Our subject's paternal grandfather was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and participated in the battles of Bunker Hill and Lexington.

Edwin A. Childs was principally reared and educated in New York, being sixteen years of age when the family came to Woodford county, Illinois, where he grew to manhood and early acquired an excellent knowledge of farm work. He continued to assist his father in the operation of the home farm until he started in life for himself. At the breaking out of the Civil war he was engaged in teaching, but in 1862 he laid aside all personal interests and joined the boys in blue, becoming a member of Company A, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Rome and Kenesaw Mountain, besides many skirmishes and other battles. He was in active service with his regiment until captured at Kenesaw Mountain, June 27, 1864. He was held a prisoner at Andersonville, Florence and Charleston until the war ended, and was then paroled and taken to Wilmington, where he was released. Returning to his home, he engaged in farming, and in 1870 made his first purchase of land, consisting of eighty acres in El Paso township, which he converted into one of the model farms of that locality. In connection with general farming he gave considerable attention to stock, shipping principally hogs and cattle, and meeting with good success in that branch of his business. In November, 1899, he sold his farm and purchased his present home in El Paso.

In 1868 Mr. Childs was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Mann, who was born in Massachusetts, December 11, 1847, and when quite young came west with her parents. They first located in Wisconsin, and came to Illinois in 1858. Mrs. Childs died on the farm February 22, 1899, leaving one daughter, Lillian E., who is with her father.

Fraternally Mr. Childs is an honored member of S. T. Rogers Post, No. 531, G. A. R., of El Paso, and has filled all the offices in the same. As a Republican he has taken an active part in local politics, and is now a member of the county central committee. He has served his fellow citizens faithfully and well as supervisor since 1897, and is now chairman of the fees and salary committee and a member of the finance committee, with which he has been connected since first elected to the office. He has been president of the El Paso district agricultural

board for five years, and has ever taken an active and commendable interest in those enterprises calculated to advance the interests of his town and county or promote the general welfare. He is pre-eminently public-spirited and progressive, and has most ably discharged his official duties.

JOSEPH THEENA.

This gentleman, who is one of Metamora's substantial business men, was born in Prussia, Germany, January 17, 1840, and at the age of six years came to the new world with his parents, Mathias and Anna Margaretta (Peffenhontz) Theena, also natives of Prussia. For two years the family made their home in Chicago, which was then a small place, and in 1848 moved to Peoria, where the father worked at his trade as a mason, and where the children were reared. In his native land Mathias Theena had served in the German army, and when the Civil war broke out in his country he enlisted in the One Hundred and Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He died in Peoria, in 1863, when home on a furlough. His wife survived him a number of years, and passed away in 1885. Of their four children Joseph is the oldest; Anna is the wife of Robert Cretter, of Peoria; Margaret is the wife of John Goddard, of Kansas; and Michael is a resident of Chillicothe, Illinois.

During his boyhood and youth Joseph Theena attended school in Peoria and at the age of eleven years commenced learning the butcher's trade with John C. Calhoun, with whom he remained four years. At the end of that period in 1869, he came to Metamora and opened a shop of his own, having since been successfully engaged in the butcher business at this place, with the exception of two years along in the '70s. Besides his business property he owns about two hundred acres of land in and near the city, which he operates in connection with his butchering business. He also deals in live stock. On starting out in life for himself he had no capital, and his success in life is due entirely to his industry, perseverance and good management.

On the 19th of April, 1869, Mr. Theena was married, at Peoria, to Miss Catherine Kallister, who was born in Bohemia, but was reared in Peoria. Ten children were born to them, five sons and five daughters, namely: Joseph W., a business man of Peoria; Michael F., Cecelia, Carrie, Lillian and Ella (twins), Leo, Emma, George and Edward, all at home. The family are all communicants of the Catholic church and Mr. Theena has been one of the official members for some years. In his political views he is an ardent Democrat, but at local elections, where no issue is involved, he supports the men whom he believes best qualified for the office regardless of party lines. He has always taken an active and commendable interest in public affairs, and has served as one of the trustees on the village board for some time. He is widely and favorably known throughout his adopted county, and has many warm friends in the city where he makes his home.

H. CONRARD.

In America labor is king and the sovereignty that her liberty-loving people acknowledge is that of business.

The men of most influence in a large community in this enlightened age are its enterprising, progressive representatives of commercial interests, and to this class belongs Mr. Conrard, a prominent merchant of Metamora, Illinois. He was born in the province of Alsace Lorraine, France, September 19, 1835, and is a son of Louis and Mary (Rousselle) Conrard, also natives of France, and representatives of old French families. The father spent his entire life as a business man in Alsace Lorraine. Our subject is the third in order of birth in the family of five children, the others being Mrs. Mary Ann Gomien, a widow residing in Hamilton county, Ohio; Mrs. Mary Gasper, a widow of Alsace Lorraine; and Louis and Emil, both business men of that place.

In his native province Mr. Conrard grew to manhood and for eight years attended the common schools, acquiring a good practical education in the French language. He served an apprenticeship of two years to the shoemaker's trade, and then worked at his trade for the same parties until his emigration to the United States in 1853. He took passage on a sailing vessel at Havre, and after a voyage of thirty-five days, during which they experienced some severe weather, he landed in this country. He proceeded at once to Cincinnati, where he worked at his trade two years, and later was similarly employed at St. Louis. We next find him among the Indians on the plains in the employ of fur trading companies in what is now North Dakota, where he spent one year, and then returned to St. Louis for a short time.

In 1857 Mr. Conrard came to Illinois, and after working for about a year at his trade in Tremont, Tazewell county, went to Eureka, where he had his first experience at farming, being thus employed two years. He came to Metamora in 1861 and opened a shoe shop. At first he engaged in business only in a small way but as his trade increased he put in a stock of ready-made boots and shoes, and later added a stock of general merchandise. He erected a store building and successfully engaged in business until 1866, when his store was destroyed by fire. He then built a good brick block, but in 1889 this was also burned. With characteristic energy, however, he at once rebuilt a double store, and now carries a large and well-selected stock of dry goods, clothing, shoes and groceries, in fact everything found in a first-class establishment of the kind. He has gained an enviable reputation for good goods and fair dealing, and has accordingly built up an excellent trade. Besides his pleasant residence and store, he now owns two farms in Jasper county, Indiana.

In Washington, Illinois, May 5, 1858, Mr. Conrard was united in marriage with Miss Mary This, also a native of France, who came to America when a young lady. They have a family of six children, namely: Charles and Joseph D., who are both in the store with their father; Mary, wife of J. L. Finch, of Chicago; Eulalie, Victoria and Blanche, all at home. Two others died in infancy.

Since casting his first presidential vote for General U. S. Grant in 1868, Mr. Conrard has been unswerving in his allegiance to the Republican party, but has never sought nor desired public office, preferring to devote his undivided attention to his extensive business interests. However he has been elected and served several terms as a member of the village board. Mr. Conrard has made two trips to his native land to visit the friends and scenes of his youth, but has never yet

had occasion to regret his emigration to America for here he has steadily prospered, and is to-day one of the substantial citizens of Metamora, as well as one of its most prominent men.

JOHN B. MICHELS.

Among the leading and successful business men of El Paso is the popular druggist, John B. Michels, who has been prominently identified with the interests of the city since 1890. He was born in Hermann, Missouri, January 8, 1865, and is a son of Peter and Mary (Straub) Michels, both natives of Germany, the former born in Prussia, the latter in Baden. They came to the United States in early life and were married in Hermann, Missouri, where they still continue to make their home. The father has followed various occupations, and though he came to this country empty-handed is now in comfortable circumstances. He owns a pleasant home in Hermann, and receives a pension in recognition of his services in the Civil war. He is now seventy-three years of age, his wife sixty-seven. In religious belief they are Catholics, and in politics the father is a Democrat. Of the nine children born to them two died in early childhood. Those living are Arnold B., a merchant of Germantown, Illinois; Katrina, wife of Thomas Behrens, a wine grower of Hermann, Missouri; John B., our subject; Lena, wife of John Epple, a farmer of Morrison, Missouri; Mary, wife of Joseph Haas, a farmer of El Paso township, Woodford county, Illinois; Annie, wife of Leo Stein, of St. Louis, Missouri; and Eliza, at home with her parents.

In the public schools of his native place John B. Michels acquired his education. At the age of fourteen years he left home and started out in life for himself, working first in a general store at Morrison, Missouri. Subsequently he was employed as clerk in a drug store at Carlyle, Illinois, and for three years was with a Mr. Winheim, a chemist from Germany. While with him he became a licensed pharmacist, passing the required examination at Springfield, and being one of six who passed in a class of thirty-eight. He was then nineteen years of age. Later he was employed as prescription clerk by Charles A. Strathman, a druggist of El Paso for four years, and in 1889 entered into partnership with that gentleman. A year later this partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Michels embarked in business for himself with a capital of only nine hundred dollars. He purchased a stock valued at about fifteen hundred, but it has since been increased from time to time to meet the growing demands of his trade, and now amounts to eight thousand dollars. In the meantime Mr. Michels purchased his present store building and the one adjoining for fourteen thousand dollars, and has bought other property in the town. For his own home he has erected a modern Queen Ann cottage at a cost of four thousand dollars. All of this property has been acquired through the industry, perseverance and good management of the owner, who is to-day numbered among El Paso's most progressive, energetic and successful business men, and the prosperity that has come to him is certainly well deserved.

June 26, 1889, Mr. Michels married Miss Sophia Wetzel, who was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1867, a daughter of Frederick and Rosina (Seitz) Wetzel, who are still living in that city. There she was reared

and educated and was employed as a teacher in the city schools for a time. Three children were born to our subject and his wife, but one died in infancy. Those living are Arnold, aged ten years, and Josephine, aged four years. The family are communicants of the Catholic church, and Mr. Michels is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He affiliates with the Democratic party; served as alderman of the second ward one term, and was town clerk in 1890.

GEORGE ANDREWS.

Among the representative citizens of El Paso there are none whose success has been more worthily achieved than that of the subject of this sketch. Through his own well-directed efforts and good management he has gained a comfortable competence and is now able to lay aside all business cares and live a retired life.

Mr. Andrews was born on the 31st of May, 1848, in Stamford, Lincolnshire, England, of which place his parents, James and Elizabeth (Plowright) Andrews, were also natives, the former born April 5, 1821, the latter February 27, 1826. The father was a natural mechanic, being able to turn his hand to almost anything in the mechanical line, and for years was overseer of a stone quarry in his native land, but after coming to this country turned his attention to farming. It was in 1855 that he brought his family to America, and he first settled near Tonica, La Salle county, Illinois. where he engaged in farming for three years. Subsequently he made his home in Knox county for a time and then returned to La Salle county, but afterward went to Putnam county, and in 1862 took up his home in Livingston county, looking in each county for a home giving the best advantages. He made his first purchase in Livingston county of one hundred and sixty acres of wild prairie land, which he improved with the aid of his sons, and to which he added from time to time until he had a half section of land in Waldo township. Coming to this country with no capital and a large family to support, he met with success in his undertakings and continued to actively engage in farm work until his death, August 5, 1883. His farm is one of the best improved places in Waldo township, Livingston county. As a Republican he took an active interest in political affairs, and was a patriotic and loyal citizen during the Civil war, giving his support to the assistance of soldiers and their families at home. He served as road commissioner and in other minor offices, and took a commendable interest in educational affairs and the maintaining of good schools. He helped to organize the schools in his township, having them located every two miles. In all enterprises for the advancement of the county, he took an active part. He was an active worker and supporter of the Congregational church, and was highly respected by all who knew him. Shortly after his death his widow moved to Gridley, McLean county, where she made her home until called from this life, October 30, 1899.

To this worthy couple were born fourteen children, four of whom died in infancy, and nine reached years of maturity, namely: Thomas, of Pontiac, who is represented on another page of this volume; James, a retired citizen of Minonk; George, our subject; Mary A., wife of James Greenhalgh, a farmer of Oregon; Robert, who is connected with

the custom house at Portland, Oregon; Betsy, wife of George Murray, of Waldo township, Livingston county; Henry G., who lives on the old home farm in that township; Rebecca J., wife of C. L. Wilcox, of the same township; and Everett E., also a resident of Waldo township, Livingston county.

George Andrews received his education in the common schools near his boyhood home and assisted his father in the operation of the farm until he attained his majority, after which he worked as a farm hand for one year. He then rented land and commenced farming on his own account, and as soon as he had acquired enough capital invested it in land, his first purchase consisting of eighty acres of partially improved land in Waldo township, Livingston county, to which he subsequently added. He now owns two hundred and forty acres of land in that township; one hundred and sixty acres in Iroquois county, and eighty acres in McLean county, besides his home property in El Paso. He successfully engaged in general farming until 1888, when he and his family spent six months in Oregon and California, sight seeing, and has since made his home in El Paso. In 1898 he erected his present beautiful residence, costing when complete about thirty-five hundred dollars. During his residence here he has engaged in buying and shipping stock to some extent, and has also dealt in real estate, meeting with good success in both undertakings.

December 14, 1876, Mr. Andrews wedded Miss Mary J. Kingdon, who was born in Peoria county, Illinois, August 20, 1856. Her parents, Henry and Mary A. Kingdon, are both natives of England and when young came to this country, being married in Illinois. They are among the oldest settlers of Woodford county, and are now living in El Paso. They have seven children, namely: Mary J., William, Annie, Louis, Percy, Fanny and George, all of whom live in the vicinity of the old home in Woodford county. Of the four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Andrews two died in early childhood. Those living are Lillie Mable, and Percy H., aged thirteen.

Politically Mr. Andrews is a stanch Democrat, and has always taken an active part in local politics. He has held many township offices, including that of supervisor of El Paso township, for two years, during which time the county was changed from Metamora to Eureka and the court house was built, he letting the contract for its erection. Twice he served on the board of equalization, and has most efficiently discharged every duty devolving upon him, whether public or private. In Waldo township he served as collector three successive years, and was road commissioner two terms. He is now serving as trustee of the cemetery.

Mr. Andrews is a liberal supporter and earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which he has served as steward for twenty-four years, and was a member of the building committee when the new brick church was erected in El Paso. He has filled all the chairs and is now noble grand in the Odd Fellows lodge at that place, and for six years has been a member of the board of managers of the Modern Woodmen Camp, No. 168.

Mr. Andrews can relate many interesting incidents of pioneer life in this state. Many times while herding cattle on the prairies deer would come up and graze with them, while wolves, badgers and other wild animals were numerous. The year he was thirteen

years of age he killed about two hundred rattle snakes, and saved about one hundred and fifty rattles. He was once bitten by one of these reptiles.

DAVID BRADLE.

Among the most prominent and influential citizens of Olio township, Woodford county, Illinois, is the gentleman whose name introduces this biography. He was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1850, a son of Leonard and Catharine (Heximer) Bradle, who were born, reared and married in Germany, and came to the new world in 1849 on a sailing vessel, which made the voyage in sixty-three days and landed them safely in New York. In his native land the father had followed veterinary surgery and blacksmithing for eight years, and he continued to work at his trade during his residence in Ohio, where the family first located. In 1853 they came to Illinois and took up their residence in Palestine township, Woodford county, but later moved to Cruger township, where he operated rented land and worked for Mr. Meeks twenty-two years. He died in that township in 1875, while his wife died in Olio township, Woodford county, in 1886. They were among the honored and highly respected citizens of their community. In their family were six children, namely: Phœbe, who married Michael Fry, of Olio township; Mrs. Kate Shuler, of Montgomery township, Woodford county; Frederick, of Palestine township; Mrs. Lizzie Baker, of the same township; John, of Cruger township; David, our subject.

David Bradle was only three years old when brought by his parents to Woodford county, and he was principally reared and educated in Cruger township. Throughout his active business life he has engaged in farming and the horse business, handling imported English draft horses for the past fourteen years. In 1881 he first came to Olio township and purchased a farm in the eastern part of it, but soon sold that place and returned to Cruger township, where he remained fourteen years. Since then he has made his home in Olio township and has improved a fine farm.

In Cruger township Mr. Bradle was married, in 1874, to Miss Eliza Jane Wright, a native of Olio township and a daughter of James and Sarah (Grove) Wright, who were natives of Ohio and Virginia, respectively, and came to Woodford county in early life, their marriage being celebrated in Olio township, where they continue to reside. Our subject and his wife have four children, namely: Frank, who is married and lives in Olio township; James, Eliza and Maggie.

As an ardent Democrat Mr. Bradle has taken an active interest in political affairs, and has been called upon to fill several official positions of honor and trust, the duties of which he most capably discharged. In 1895 he was elected commissioner of Olio township and filled that office for three years. Here he has served on the school board three years, and while a resident of Cruger township was president of the board nine years, constable four years and pathmaster seven years. He is an active member of the Lutheran church and never withholds his support from any enterprise calculated to prove of public benefit, taking a deep interest in all that pertains to the welfare of his township

and county. His genial, pleasant manner has made him quite popular both in business and social circles, and his circle of friends and acquaintances is extensive.

SYLVANUS S. ROBINSON.

Among the influential members of the farming community of Woodford county and one of its most prosperous and wealthy citizens is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. He has been a resident of the county since 1853 and makes his home on section 11, Metamora township, where he owns and operates a valuable farm of six hundred and forty acres.

Mr. Robinson was born in Champaign county, Ohio, November 1, 1846, and traces his ancestry back to Rev. John Robinson, one of the Puritan fathers, who went from England to Holland about 1608, and was pastor of one of the early churches of that country. His great-great-grandfather was Experience Robinson, whose son, Elias Robinson, Sr., was a native of Connecticut and a soldier of the Revolutionary war. In the family of the latter was Elias Robinson, Jr., the grandfather of our subject. He was also born in Connecticut and was one of the defenders of his country in the war of 1812. As early as 1817 he moved to Union county, Ohio, becoming one of its pioneers. There our subject's father, George Robinson, was born in 1818, and on reaching manhood married Lorana E. Smith, a native of Champaign county, Ohio, and a daughter of Sylvanus Smith, also an early settler of Union county, having located there in 1816. George Robinson followed farming in Union and Champaign counties, Ohio, for some years, and there all of his children were born. In 1853 he came west to Illinois and located in Metamora township, Woodford county, where he owned and operated a farm of eighty acres. He was a successful agriculturist and had other lands besides the home farm, including two hundred and forty acres, on which our subject now resides. He died March 11, 1883, honored and respected by all who knew him. His first wife and the mother of our subject departed this life March 11, 1850, but his last wife is still living and continues to reside on the home place.

Sylvanus S. Robinson was only seven years of age when the family came to Woodford county, and on the old homestead his boyhood and youth were passed, his education being acquired in the local schools and the high school at Woodstock, Ohio. On attaining his majority he commenced farming for himself upon a part of his father's land, and at the latter's death purchased his stepmother's interest in the two-hundred-and-forty-acre tract on which he makes his home. From time to time he has bought more land, and now has six hundred and forty acres in his farm. This place he has improved by the erection of a commodious and pleasant residence, good and substantial barns and outbuildings. He has set out an evergreen hedge around his lawn and has planted fruit and forest trees, making his place one of the most attractive as well as one of the best improved and most valuable farms in the township. Besides this property Mr. Robinson owns a farm of one hundred and sixty acres of land in Panola township and a well improved place of two hundred and eighty acres in Franklin county, Iowa. He raises, feeds and ships stock quite extensively, and since 1885 has made a spe-

cialty of the breeding of pure blooded Galloway cattle, of which he has a fine herd of about one hundred head.

On the 12th of February, 1878, in Metamora township, Mr. Robinson was united in marriage with Miss Emma E. Wilson, a native of Woodford county, and a daughter of M. W. Wilson, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. They have eight children living, five sons and three daughters, namely: George W., Francis M., Lewis S., Robert E., Arthur L., Agie L., Elsie P. and Emily May. One son, Harry, died August 5, 1895, at the age of four and a half years.

In his political affiliations Mr. Robinson is a stalwart Republican, having always supported that party since casting his first presidential ballot for General U. S. Grant in 1868. He has never cared for political preferment, however, desiring rather to devote his entire time and attention to his extensive business interests. A man of keen perception and unbounded enterprise his success has been worthily achieved, and he deserves prominent mention among the leading and representative business men of the county. His genial, pleasant manner has made him quite popular in both business and social circles, and as a public spirited and enterprising man he is recognized as a valued citizen of the community.

REV. NATHANIEL S. HAYNES.

One of the best known ministers of the Christian church in Illinois is the subject of this sketch, who is now serving as pastor of the Christian church in Eureka, Illinois. He was born in Washington, Mason county, Kentucky, March 7, 1844, and is the son of James and Amanda (Hampton) Haynes, the former a native of England, born in Sussex, near Surry, February 1, 1810, where he grew to manhood and in his youth learned the shoemaker's trade. He came to this country in 1832, locating in Washington, Kentucky, and there continued working at his trade in connection with merchandising. He became a well known and highly respected citizen of that place, and there married Miss Amanda Hampton, one of the well known family of that name, which has been very prominent in southern history. She was a daughter of James Hampton.

In 1852 James Haynes came with his family to Woodford county, Illinois, and purchased a farm adjoining the corporate limits of Eureka, where he made a home and operated an extensive farm. When he left Kentucky he bought a herd of short-horn cattle to bring with him to his new home, but sold the greater part of them before he arrived. He was an industrious and conservative man, of the highest type of integrity and honor. For many years he was a member of the Christian church, and like many others residing in or near Eureka, he contributed liberally in support of the college. His death occurred December 12, 1894. His widow yet lives on the farm which was so long their home and yet gives personal attention to its management. They were the parents of nine children, all of whom are living, save one.

Nathaniel S. Haynes grew to manhood in Woodford county, and was but eight years old when the family settled here. In the public schools of Eureka he received his primary education, after which he entered Eureka College, with a view of taking the

regular course. While a student there the Civil war commenced, and in common with thousands of other young men he put aside his text books and enlisted in Company A, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and with his regiment went south, arriving in time to participate in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky. After that battle he participated in several skirmishes with the enemy until early in 1863, when he was taken sick with typhoid fever. His recovery was very slow, and he was discharged from the service and sent home. Recovering his health, in the spring of 1864 he again enlisted, becoming a member of Company A, One Hundred and Thirty-ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and continued to serve until his regiment was mustered out of service, the greater part of the time being on detached service in the United States government telegraph office in Cairo, Illinois.

After receiving his discharge Mr. Haynes returned home and resumed his studies in the college, from which he was graduated in 1867, with the degree of A. B. He then went to Kansas, Illinois, and was there principal of the public schools for one year. In June, 1868, he received the degree of A. M., and at the same time was ordained to the ministry, having for a time previous been engaged in preaching the gospel. His first pastorate was for the Christian church at Kansas, Illinois, where he had been engaged in teaching. While in that place he did much evangelistic work in the surrounding country and was instrumental in bringing many into the church of Christ.

Wishing to further qualify himself for his life work he entered Kentucky University and spent the school year of 1869-70. In 1872, the year of the Peace Jubilee, he went to Prince Edwards Island and spent three months and a half in evangelistic work. In August, 1873, he received a call from the Christian church at Decatur, Illinois, to become its pastor, and at once entered upon the work. The Decatur church was small at that time, but while he remained there it grew in numbers and in spiritual strength, and a new house of worship was built and paid for. He remained with the church as pastor until 1880, leaving it in a prosperous condition. He resigned that he might accept the position of corresponding secretary of the Illinois Christian Missionary Society, and served in that office in a most acceptable manner until 1886, in the meantime making his home in Decatur. While serving in that office he traveled in all parts of the state and gave his undivided time to the subject of missions and preaching of the gospel of Christ. Those acquainted with his work give him the credit of putting more enthusiasm into the missionary work of the state than had heretofore been accomplished by any other man. In that work he showed remarkable executive ability and accomplished much for the cause of the Master. On the 1st of September, 1886, he resigned the office that he might accept the call to the pastorate of the Christian church of Peoria, Illinois, where he labored until March 1, 1892. That was a time for development for the church at that place, and under the pastorate of Mr. Haynes the congregation grew in numbers and in grace, bought a lot, built and paid for a missionary chapel in the lower part of the city, organized a mission Sunday school, and raised several thousand dollars for a building fund.

In March, 1892, Mr. Haynes removed to Englewood and became pastor of the church at that place, the house of worship being near the corner of Sixty-fourth street and

Eggleston avenue. He remained with that church until October 1, 1898, during which time an addition to the church was built and the congregation grew in numbers, becoming one of the best Christian churches in Chicago. The field in which he labored was a hard one to cultivate, but he toiled on with faith in the general outcome, and left the church in a flourishing condition. November 1, 1898, he came to Eureka as pastor of his old home church, in which he entered upon the Christian race. He has now been with it for about two years, and it can truthfully be said that notwithstanding the church has been ministered unto by some of the ablest men in the brotherhood, none have been more acceptable to the members and friends than N. S. Haynes.

On the 20th of November, 1874, Mr. Haynes was united in marriage with Miss Rose Frazier, of Paris, Illinois, daughter of John Frazier, one of the pioneer settlers of Edgar county, Illinois. By this union have been born two daughters, Rose and Ethel.

Fraternally Mr. Haynes is a member of Dan Miles Post, G. A. R., of Eureka. He was also a member of Bryner Post, No. 67, of Peoria, and served as its commander for one year and chaplain for four years. While in Chicago he was a member of the George G. Meade Post, No. 444, and served as chaplain for three years. For thirty years he has served as one of the trustees of Eureka College, and in that time has done much to advance its interests. He has been a frequent contributor to the periodical literature of the Christian church for many years, and his contributions are read with interest and profit by all. He is logical and clear cut in all his utterances and no hearer or reader but understands what he is aiming at in his speech. Few men have a more terse way of stating a proposition. Strong in the faith, he labors for the good of humanity and the upbuilding of the cause of Christ.

SNYDER BROTHERS.

The firm of Snyder Brothers, grain, coal and lumber dealers of Metamora, is but a recent acquisition to the goodly array of progressive business men in that thriving town, but their ability, enterprise and upright methods have already established for them an enviable reputation. Although the brothers are still young men, their popularity is established on a firm basis—that of their own well-tested merit.

John Snyder, father of our subject, was born in Germany in October, 1819, and was a son of Nicholas Snyder, also a native of Germany and of German ancestry. The latter followed the miller's trade in his native land until 1828, when he emigrated to America with his wife and children, and first located in Pennsylvania, where he resided for some years. In 1855 he came west to Illinois and took up a claim in Woodford county near the present village of Spring Bay. Later he purchased more land and became one of the prosperous farmers of the county.

John Snyder was only six years of age when he came with the family to the United States and in Pennsylvania he grew to manhood. At the age of sixteen he commenced earning his own livelihood, and, saving his money, he was at length able to purchase a tract of land in Partridge township, Woodford county, upon which he erected a log house, making it his home while he broke and improved his land. After residing there

for a number of years he bought a well improved farm in Metamora township in 1874, and continued to successfully engage in agricultural pursuits throughout life, becoming one of the substantial farmers of his community. He died September 4, 1894, honored and respected by all who knew him. He was twice married, his first wife being Susan Caldwell, a native of Ohio, by whom he had one daughter, Ellen. His second wife was Lovina Baker, a native of Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of Chauncey Baker, who was also born in that state and was one of the first settlers of Woodford county, Illinois. By this union were born three children: Susan, wife of Orrin Kern, a business man of Washington, Illinois; and John C. and Simeon, who constitute the firm of Snyder Brothers. The mother is still living and now makes her home with Simeon in Metamora.

John C. Snyder, the senior member of the firm of Snyder Brothers, was born in Partridge township, Woodford county, August 23, 1873, and received his education in the home schools. He assisted his father in the labors of the farm until the latter's death, when he and his brother took charge of that place and carried it on until coming to Metamora in April, 1899. Here they embarked in the grain, lumber and coal business under the firm name of Snyder Brothers, and have already built up an excellent trade. They own a good elevator for the storage of their grain and carry a good stock of lumber and all kinds of building material. They are enterprising, wide-awake young business men and by fair and honorable dealing have gained a liberal share of the public patronage. On the 1st of March, 1898, John C. Snyder was married, in Metamora, to Miss Myrtle Owen, who was born, reared and educated in Cazenovia township, Woodford county, successfully engaged in teaching for a time and served as postmistress of Metamora for four years, being appointed to that office during President Cleveland's second term. Her father, D. M. Owen, was a substantial farmer and business man of Woodford county and served one term as sheriff and later as deputy sheriff. His last days were spent in Metamora, where he died July 23, 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have a pleasant home in Metamora, which he erected.

Simeon Snyder, the junior member of the firm, was born on the old homestead in Metamora township June 27, 1877, and began his education in the district schools of that locality, later attending the Metamora high school and the State University at Champaign, where he finished his studies in the spring of 1898. For a year he devoted his attention to farming and then embarked in his present business at Metamora. In that city he was married, June 27, 1900, to Miss Bertha Isch, a daughter of John A. Isch, of Metamora. She is a native of Switzerland, but was principally reared and educated in this country. The home of the young couple is a modern structure and one of the best in the town. Politically the brothers are identified with the Democratic party, but have never taken an active part in public affairs.

E. K. DAVIDSON.

This prominent and well-known citizen of Cruger township, whose home is on section 14, was born in that township, January 5, 1858, and belongs to one of Woodford county's most honored pioneers, being a son of Calvin G. and Eliza (Kinnear) Davidson.

The father was born in Kentucky, October 13, 1826, and in 1831 came to Woodford county, Illinois, with his parents, Caleb and Martha (Glazebrook) Davidson, natives of South Carolina, who removed to Kentucky at an early day. The family settled in what is now Cruger township before the county was organized and took up government land, at the same time buying other tracts, which the grandfather of our subject improved. He died in that township in 1870, and his wife died in Eureka in 1882. Their children were Mrs. Letitia Oatman, of Kansas City; Marshall E., of Nevada, Missouri; Mrs. Susan Eckles, of Washington, Illiois; Calvin G., father of our subject; Mrs. Martha Lindsay, of Brooklyn, New York; Mrs. Eliza Jones, of Missouri; William A., of Eureka, who is represented on another page of this volume; Frank, of Hannibal, Missouri; Sarah, wife of Dr. Crawford, of Eureka; and Mrs. Mary Reynolds, of Peoria.

Calvin G. Davidson, our subject's father, grew to manhood on the old homestead in Cruger township, and there he was married, March 8, 1855, to Eliza Kinnear, who was born near Kingston, Ohio, September 1, 1833, a daughter of Charles and Ellen (Ritchey) Kinnear, also pioneer settlers of Woodford county. On first coming to this state they located in Bloomington, and then removed to Cruger township, Woodford county, where Mr. Kinnear opened up a farm on section 14, making it his home throughout the remainder of his life. He died in 1892, his wife in 1884. They had five children: Eliza, mother of our subject; George, a resident of Seattle, Washington; Rachel, wife of E. F. Earl, of Paxton, Illinois; John R. and Lockwood A., both of Seattle. After his marriage the father of our subject settled near the village of Cruger, but later moved to the Kinnear homestead, where he was engaged in farming for several years. He took an active part in organizing the county and served as politics he is a Democrat. He and his wife are now living in Watseka, Illinois. They have a family of five children: W. O., now serving as supervisor of Cruger township; E. K., our subject; and Mrs. Capitola Hirshi, Mrs. Caddie Kern and Mrs. Anna Martin, all residents of Watseka.

Our subject was reared on the old Kinnear homestead, where he now resides, and was educated in the district schools of Cruger township. Throughout his active business life he has followed the occupation of farming with marked success, and is justly numbered among the most thorough and skillful agriculturists of his township. He was married in Vernon county, Missouri, in 1894, to Miss Cornelia A. McDaniel, a native of Alabama and a daughter of Lowry and Anna Amanda (Coats) McDaniel, who died in Alabama. By this union has been born one child, Calvin Lowry.

As a Democrat Mr. Davidson has taken a leading and influential part in local politics, and served as supervisor of his township in 1894 and 1895. Socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge of Eureka; William C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, F. & A. M.; Tazewell Chapter, No. 199, R. A. M.; Couer de Leon Commandery, No. 49, of El Paso, and Mohamet Temple of the Mystic Shrine, of Peoria. He is eminently public spirited and progressive and identifies himself with those interests whose object it is to advance the welfare of the township and county. Mr. Davidson is widely and favorably known, and those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends.

CHRISTIAN SCHAFER.

This well-known resident of El Paso is one of our leading German-born citizens and in his successful business career he has shown the characteristic thrift and enterprise of his race. Beginning with no capital except that acquired by his own industry, he has steadily prospered in his business ventures and is to-day one of the wealthiest citizens of his adopted county.

Mr. Schafer was born in Bavaria, Germany, September 21, 1834, and is a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Wagner) Schafer, who spent their entire lives in that country. The father was extensively engaged in the grain business, having fourteen teams on the road all of the time, and was a large land owner. He was manager of the King's salt magazine for thirty-two years, and also served as mayor of Waltmur for twenty-seven years, being one of the most influential citizens as well as one of the wealthiest men of his locality. His father had held those offices before him and in Germany belonged to what corresponds to the English nobility.

Our subject is the seventh in order of birth in a family of eight children, all of whom grew to maturity and four are now living, namely: Charlotte, now seventy-eight years of age, is the widow of Nicholas Freese and a resident of Washington, Illinois; Henry, aged seventy-six, is living retired in Wheeling, West Virginia; Margaret is the wife of Frederick Bashar, of Bellaire, Ohio; our subject completes the family. By a former marriage the father had five children, all now deceased.

C. Schafer attended school in his native land until thirteen years of age and then learned the shoemaker's trade, serving a one-year apprenticeship, after which he traveled two years through Bavaria and Prussia, working at his trade in the large towns. At the age of sixteen he determined to come to America and finally succeeded in getting enough money from the administrators of his father's estate to pay his passage. He sailed from Havre on the Christian Henry and after a voyage of twenty-two days landed in New York. There he found that he only had twelve and a half cents in his pockets and this he spent for a meal. He finally found work at his trade in a basement shoe shop and also found a friend who had known his father in the old country. After working eight days he had enough money to pay his fare to Wheeling, West Virginia, where a brother had made his home for about twenty-five years. After visiting his brother and sister for a time he commenced work at his trade in that city, where he was employed for three years, and then determined to try his fortune in the west. He took passage on the first stern-wheel steamer ever in America and by way of the Ohio, Mississippi and Illinois river proceeded to Peoria, where he arrived January 26, 1854. There he was married, on the 18th of July, the same year, to Miss Phebe Bashar, also a native of Bavaria, Germany, who, when a child of seven years, came to America with her parents and located in Bellaire, Ohio. Her father was Nicholas Bashar, of Bavaria.

In October, 1854, Mr. and Mrs. Schafer removed to Kappa, Woodford county, where he successfully engaged in the shoe business for several years, and also bought and sold hogs, cattle and sheep. In 1861 he became a resident of El Paso, where he erected a store building and opened a stock of shoes, carrying on business as a dealer in connection with his manufacturing department. At

the end of eleven months he added groceries to his stock and a little later put in dry goods, and subsequently hats, caps, clothing and gents' furnishing goods, carrying everything needed by the farmers. From time to time he increased his stock until he had a first-class general store. As his financial resources increased he invested in land and now has about fifteen hundred acres around El Paso and also six hundred and forty acres of fine cotton land in Clay county, Mississippi. Mr. Schafer is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Port Arthur, Texas, and also owns five store buildings, four dwelling houses and a number of vacant lots in that city. On the 14th of July, 1884, he assisted in organizing the First National Bank of El Paso, in connection with A. S. McKinney, Al Johnson, J. Quincy Adams and S. T. Rogers, and is serving as vice-president and director of the same. The bank has a capital stock of over eighty thousand dollars and is in a prosperous and thriving condition. In 1892 Mr. Schafer made a present of his store to his son-in-law, H. J. Tegmyer, who has since carried on the business, while our subject practically lives retired, looking after his investments. Besides the property already mentioned he owns two residences and three store buildings in El Paso.

Of the eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Schafer, Jennie, the eldest, married Robert Harseim and died in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 10, 1892, at the age of thirty-six years, leaving three children, Edna, Jeanette and Roberta. Fred W. died at the age of two years and Charles at the age of one year. Ida is the wife of Henry Tegtmyer, of El Paso, and they have one daughter, Ethel. Nellie died at the age of nine months. Harry C., who is with the Emporium Company, of Chicago, married Emma Evans and they have one child, Laurine. Clara died at the age of seven months. Edward George is a graduate of Eureka College and the Northwestern University and is now in El Paso. Millie is at home. Walter Robert was a law student at the Chicago University at the time of his death, May 20, 1899. Frank B. is attending the law school of the Chicago University.

Each year Mr. and Mrs. Schafer spend some time in traveling and have been over the greater part of the United States. They are prominent members of the Presbyterian church of El Paso, in which he has served twenty-three years as trustee and treasurer in this and other churches. For three years he most efficiently served as president of the school board, having eleven districts under his supervision, and he has also served as alderman of the city, although he has never cared for official honors. Since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln he has affiliated with the Republican party, and has attended many county and state conventions of his party. He was one of the organizers of the El Paso Fair Association and has always given his support to those enterprises which he believed calculated to prove of public benefit. He is widely and favorably known and justly merits the high regard in which he is held.

BENJAMIN K. ORE.

The subject of this sketch, who is now living a retired life in El Paso, Illinois, was born in Swedesboro, Gloucester county, New Jersey, December 29, 1826, and is a son of Isaac and Mila (Wodes) Ore. The father was a native of England and was only three

years old when, with his parents, he came to the United States and settled in Gloucester county, New Jersey, where he spent the remainder of his life. He was a brick and stone mason by trade and followed contracting and building. He died in October, 1828, when our subject was only two years old. His wife was born and reared in Swedesboro, New Jersey, and was a descendant of some of the very earliest settlers of that state. She lived to the ripe old age of eighty-eight years and departed this life in 1888. In their family were seven children, namely: Elizabeth, wife of George Black, of Swedesboro, both now deceased; John and Charles, also deceased; Mila, wife of William Zanes, living near Swedesboro; Ransom, a resident of Sea View, New Jersey; Lydia, deceased; Benjamin K., our subject; and Isaac J., a resident of Swedesboro.

In his native town Benjamin K. Ore was reader and educated and in early life followed farming. In 1849 he found employment in a hotel in Swedesboro, where he remained for six years, and in 1855 came west, locating at Farmington, Fulton county, Illinois, where he made his home until coming to Woodford county in 1858. He was engaged in farming in Palestine township until after the Civil war broke out, when he enlisted, August 7, 1862, in Company A, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battle of Perryville and in a skirmish near Stone river, where he received injuries which incapacitated him for service at the front. He was then assigned to detached duty in the Invalid Corps and thus served out his term of enlistment, being stationed at various times in Syracuse, Rochester and Elmira, New York, and Chicago, Illinois. In the last named city he was honorably discharged July 2, 1865, and then returned to his home in Woodford county. Mr. Ore followed farming near Kappa, El Paso township, until 1889, when he moved to Springfield, Illinois, and spent two years in that city, after which he returned to Amboy, remaining there until 1899, when he came to El Paso, where he is now living a retired life.

On the 4th of September, 1851, Mr. Ore was united in marriage with Miss Esther Cline, a native of Morristown, Burlington county, New Jersey, and they became the parents of seven children, as follows: Henry P., born August 17, 1852, was killed by the Indians at Camp Robinson, Nebraska, January 12, 1879, while serving in Company A, Third Regiment United States Army; John, born June 9, 1855, died in infancy; Mila, born August 27, 1856, is also deceased; Joseph, born October 15, 1861, resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Thomas, born May 1, 1866, is living in Tacoma, Washington; Eva, born May 11, 1869, is the wife of Jacob J. Dole, of Olathe, Kansas; and Blanch, born March 31, 1871, is the wife of Frederick Wohnke, of El Paso. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church and are people of prominence in the communities where they reside. Mr. Ore has always supported the Republican party and is a charter member of the Grand Army post at El Paso. By all who know him he is held in high regard and he has many friends throughout Woodford county.

W. O. DAVIDSON.

The natural advantages of this section attracted at an early day a superior class of settlers, thrifty, industrious, progressive and law-abiding, whose influence gave permanent

direction to the development of the locality. Among the worthy pioneers of Woodford county the Davidson family hold prominent place. They always bore their part in the work of advancement and progress and gave their support to all enterprises for the public good.

The present supervisor of Cruger township is a worthy representative of this family. There he was born March 8, 1856, a son of Calvin G. and Eliza (Kinnear) Davidson. The father was born in Kentucky October 13, 1826, and in 1832 came to Woodford county, Illinois, with his parents, Caleb and Martha (Glazebrook) Davidson, natives of South Carolina, who had removed to Kentucky at an early day. The family settled in what is now Cruger township before the county was organized and took up government land, at the same time buying other tracts, which the grandfather of our subject improved. He died in that township in 1870 and his wife died in Eureka in 1882. Their children were Mrs. Letitia Oatman, of Kansas City; Marshall E., of Nevada, Missouri; Mrs. Susan Eckles, of Washington, Illinois; Calvin G., father of our subject; Mrs. Martha Lindsay, of Brooklyn, New York; Mrs. Eliza Jones, of Missouri; William A., of Eureka, who is represented on another page of this volume; Frank, of Hannibal, Missouri; Sarah, wife of Dr. Crawford, of Eureka; and Mrs. Mary Reynolds, of Peoria.

Calvin G. Davidson, our subject's father, grew to manhood on the old homestead in Cruger township and there he was married, March 8, 1855, to Eliza Kinnear, who was born near Kingston, Ohio, September 1, 1833, a daughter of Charles and Ellen (Ritchey) Kinnear, also pioneer settlers of Woodford county. On first coming to this state they settled at Bloomington, and then removed to Cruger township, Woodford county, where Mr. Kinnear opened up a farm on section 14, making it his home throughout the remainder of his life. He died December 16, 1892, his wife in December, 1884. They had five children: Eliza, mother of our subject; George, a resident of Seattle, Washington; Rachel, wife of E. F. Earl, of Paxton, Illinois; John R. and Lockwood A., both of Seattle. After his marriage the father of our subject settled near the village of Cruger, but later moved to the Kinnear homestead, where he was engaged in farming for several years. He took an active part in organizing the county and served as commissioner of highways for a time. In politics he is a Democrat. He and his wife are now living in Watseka, Illinois. Of their five children W. O. is the oldest, E. K. lives on the old homestead, and Mrs. Capitola Hirshi, Mrs. Caddie Kern and Mrs. Anna Martin are all residents of Watseka.

The boyhood and youth of W. O. Davidson was passed amid rural scenes and he was educated in the district schools of Cruger township and later attended Knox College, of Galesburg, where he took a scientific course. In 1881 he purchased his present farm in that township and the following year took up his residence thereon, his time and energies being since devoted to its further improvement and cultivation. He carries on general farming and stock raising and is meeting with well deserved success in his labors. In 1883, October 18, he was married, in Cruger township, to Miss Eliza Ellis, a native of Pennsylvania, where her parents, Thomas and Elizabeth (Fleming) Ellis, were also born. (See sketch of Thomas Ellis elsewhere in this volume.) To our subject and his wife have been born six chil-

dren: Charles, Bessie, Nora, Thomas, Geneveive and Wildon Crawford.

Socially Mr. Davidson is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and William C. Hobbs Lodge, No. 306, F. & A. M., of Eureka, and Tazewell Chapter, No. 199, R. A. M., of Washington. In his political affiliations he is a Democrat and as one of the leading citizens of his township he has taken a very prominent and influential part in public affairs. In the spring of 1899 he was elected supervisor of Cruger township and is now filling that office with credit to himself and to the satisfaction of his constituents.

PETER FAGOT.

Since 1847 this gentleman has made his home in Woodford county and has been prominently identified with its growth and development. Like many of our best and most enterprising citizens, he comes from across the sea, his birth having occurred January 16, 1839, in Alsace Lorraine, France, now a province of Germany. His parents, Joseph and Barbara (Tunna) Fagot, were natives of the same province, where they continued to make their home until 1847, when, with their family, they emigrated to America. They came at once to Woodford county, Illinois, locating here when the country was but sparsely settled and much of the land was still in its primitive condition. During his youth the father learned the trade of a weaver, which he continued to follow until old age compelled his retirement from active labor. He died in 1880, his wife in 1887. In the family of these worthy pioneers were six children, all born in France, with the exception of the youngest daughter. They were as follows: Prosper G., born December 20, 1836, died at his home in Linn township, in 1898; Peter, our subject, is the next in order of birth; Mary is the widow of Frank Lozier and a resident of Minonk township, Woodford county; Frank died on his farm in Spring Bay township, in August, 1900; Christina married Andrew Conkle, of Marshall county, Illinois, where she died; and Felicity, born in Partridge township, Woodford county, married Martin Voltz and died in Worth township.

During his boyhood Peter Fagot received but a very limited education. Until the age of twenty-three he assisted his father in the improvement and cultivation of the home farm, it being all wild prairie and timber land when they located there. They commenced farming on a small scale, but were able to carry on business more extensively as years passed and they prospered in their undertakings. After his marriage, in 1863, our subject lived in Worth township, Woodford county, for two years, and then spent a short time in Spring Bay township, after which he returned to the former township, making his home there for twenty years. He bought one hundred and eighteen acres, which he cleared, tiled and improved, and he continued to successfully engage in farming and stock raising there until 1892, when he sold the place and bought his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 17, Linn township. This he now operates with the assistance of his son.

In 1863 Mr. Fagot married Miss Matilda Voltz, a native of Worth township, and to them were born five children, of whom one died in infancy. The others are as follows: (1) Frank, born in 1864, is now

engaged in farming on rented land in Linn township. He is married and has three children, Pearl, Ray and Stella. (2) Felicity J., born in 1867, is the wife of Peter Zeiger, of Palestine township, Woodford county, and they have five children, Viola, Le Roy, Randolph, Otmor and Matilda. (3) Mary, born in 1869, first married Alexander Spitznagel, who died leaving one child, Elmer, and she then married his brother, Edwin C. Spitznagel, by whom she has one daughter, Henrietta E. (4) Lena, born in 1872, is the wife of L. H. Stephenson, of Cazenovia township, Woodford county. The wife and mother died in Worth township, in 1874, and the following year Mr. Fagot married Mary A. Kerker, who was born in 1838, and was then the widow of M. Schwenk. She had seven children by her first marriage, those living being Leo, Mary, William, Mathias, Carrie and George. John died at the age of nineteen years. Mr. Fagot has three children by his second wife: Matilda, born in 1876, is now the wife of A. Lapp, a dairyman of Peoria, and they have one daughter, Anna; Peter, born in 1878, and Pauleana, born in 1882, are both at home. All of the children have received good common school educations.

While a resident of Worth township Mr. Fagot served as supervisor two years and held school offices for ten years. In politics he is a Democrat and in religious belief is a Catholic. He has always taken an active interest in church work, and has given his support to all enterprises tending to advance the interests of his community. As one of the pioneers of the county he has witnessed almost its entire development. At the age of eighteen, while crossing the prairie in Linn township, he stopped at a point about one mile east of his present home, and from there could be seen but three houses in any direction. At that time only about a third of the land was under cultivation. He bore his part in the pioneer work, and is justly deserving of prominent mention among the early settlers and honored citizens of his adopted county.

A. SMITH McKINNEY.

More than thirty years have passed since this gentleman arrived in El Paso, and he is justly numbered among her leading and influential citizens. He has been prominently identified with her business interests as a lumber dealer and president of the First National Bank.

Mr. McKinney was born in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, October 12, 1834, and is a son of A. Smith and Margaret (Reynolds) McKinney, also natives of Pennsylvania and of Scotch-Irish descent. His ancestors came to America at a very early day and were pioneers of the Keystone state. The father was for some time a soldier of the war of 1812 and was present at the battle of of Baltimore. In the spring of 1834 he rode from his home in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, to Peoria, Illinois, and purchased land at Fort Clark, a part of which is still in possession of the family, but he did not locate there until the spring of 1856. In connection with farming he ran a large tanyard for a number of years, but was living a retired life at the time of his death, which occurred in Peoria, in 1872. He took a prominent part in public affairs and for five years represented his district in the state legislature. His wife departed this life in 1886. To them were born nine children, all

of whom reached years of maturity, except one, and six are still living.

Of this family our subject is fourth in order of birth. His early education was received in the schools of his native county, but later he attended the Milnwood Academy at Shade Gap, Huntington county, Pennsylvania, for three years, and then entered Jefferson College, where he pursued a classical course, and was graduated in 1855, with the degree of A. B. After his graduation he taught school at Lake Providence, Louisiana, in the winter of 1855-1856. He was then engaged in the lumber business at Elmwood, Peoria county, Illinois, for eight years, in partnership with a brother and Mr. Bushnell, under the firm name of Bushnell, McKinney & Company, and in 1866 moved to Yazoo county, Mississippi, locating near Yazoo City, where he conducted a cotton plantation for two years. Selling out, he came north in the spring of 1868 and took up his residence in El Paso, Illinois, where he purchased the lumber yard of Gibson Brothers, and has since carried on the same. At different times he has bought out half a dozen lumber yards. His first partner in this business was James M. Hotchkiss, of Peoria, and second Joseph Elder, both now deceased. The last partnership terminated about eight years ago and since that time he has conducted business alone under the firm name of McKinney & Company.

In 1883 S. T. Rogers, C. Shafer, Dr. F. Cole, Dr. J. Q. Adams, A. Smith McKinney and others organized the First National Bank of El Paso, with a capital stock of fifty thousand dollars, and Mr. McKinney was elected president, which office he has held continuously since. S. T. Rogers was the first cashier and Dr. J. Q. Adams, vice-president, but at the present time C. Shafer is vice-president and F. B. Stitt, who was formerly a bookkeeper, is cashier, while Louis K. Evans is assistant cashier. The bank now has a surplus of twenty-five thousand dollars; its deposits amount to over three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and it is numbered among the most reliable financial institutions of central Illinois. Mr. McKinney is a man of keen sagacity and sound judgment and his executive ability and excellent management have brought to the bank a high degree of success. The safe, conservative policy which he inaugurated commends itself to the judgment of all, and has secured a patronage which makes the volume of business transacted over its counters of great importance and magnitude. The success of the bank is certainly due in a large measure to him, and through it and his other business he has largely promoted the welfare of El Paso.

On the 18th of June, 1861, Mr. McKinney was united in marriage with Miss Adelaide F. Abbott, a native of Connecticut, and a daughter of Bela Abbott, who was also born in that state and on coming west settled in Elmwood, Peoria county, Illinois, where he conducted a general mercantile establishment for many years. Mrs. McKinney is the only child of her parents. To our subject and his wife have been born eight children, namely: Anna F., who is the widow of Robert A. Kirkpatrick, of Braddock, Pennsylvania, and is now living with her father in El Paso; Margaret R., wife of Charles F. Husted, of Peoria; Abbott, who is chief estimator for the True & True Company, manufacturers of sash and doors in Chicago; William Smith, who was graduated at Princeton College in 1894, and is now connected with the Missouri Lumber & Mining Company at Grandin, Missouri; Adelaide

A., at home; John Reynolds, who is engaged in the lumber business with his father; Jeanette Elizabeth, at home; and Gertrude Hunt, who is attending Lake Forrest Seminary.

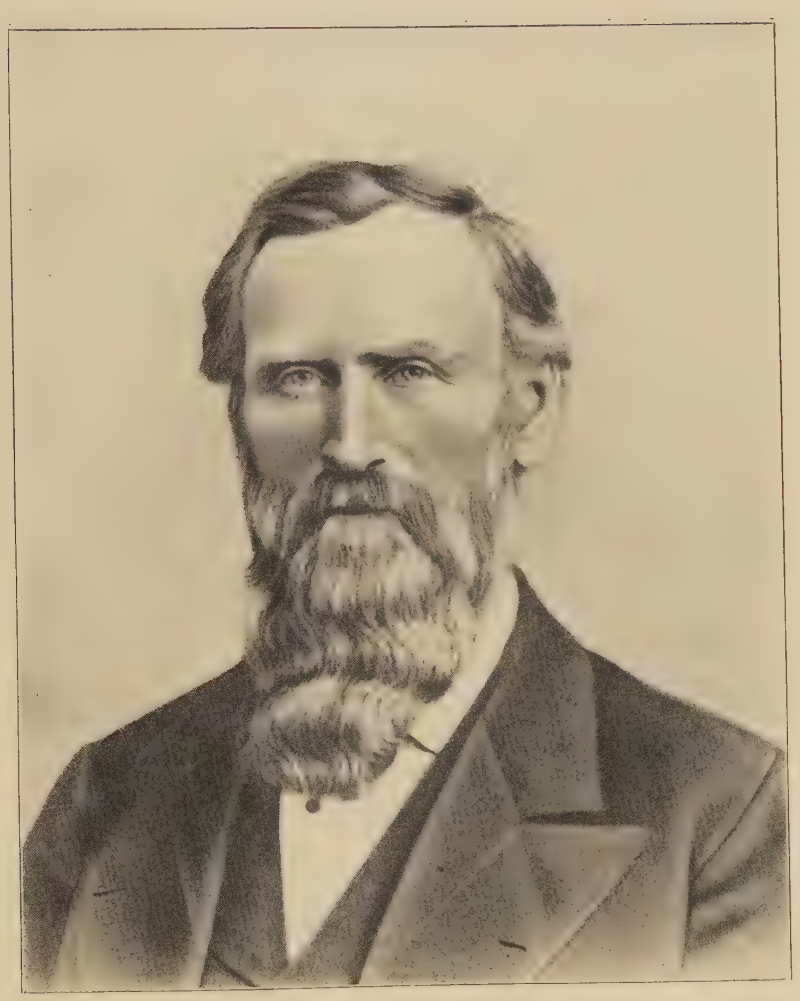
Both Mr. and Mrs. McKinney are members of the Presbyterian church, in which he has served as elder for about thirty years. He has twice been a delegate to the general assembly from the Bloomington presbytery; has taught in the Sunday school since attaining his majority, and was superintendent of the same for about fifteen years. He has always taken a very active and prominent part in all church work. He cast his first presidential vote for Stephen A. Douglas, and was present at the Charleston convention in 1860, but since then has supported the Republican party. For two years he served as alderman of El Paso, and as school director for about sixteen years, being re-elected in the spring of 1900 for another three-years term. Whether in public or private his integrity is above question, his honor above reproach, and El Paso may well number him among her valued citizens.

MARCELLUS W. WILSON.

This well-known citizen and honored pioneer of Woodford county, dates his residence here from May, 1844. For many years he was actively identified with the agricultural interests of this county, but is now living a retired life on his fine farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is pleasantly situated on section 10, Metamora township, within four miles of the city of Metamora.

A native of New Hampshire, Mr. Wilson was born in what is now Gilmanton, Belknap county, but at that time Stafford county, January 12, 1830, and is a son of Samuel T. and Lorana (Robinson) Wilson, also natives of that state, and the latter a daughter of Joseph Robinson, who was a soldier in the war of 1812 and probably in some of the Indian wars. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Nathaniel Wilson, was also born in New Hampshire, and belonged to an old colonial family of English origin, which first settled in Massachusetts and at an early day moved to New Hampshire. In 1844 Samuel T. Wilson, in company with his wife and children, came to Woodford county, Illinois, and located on section 16, Metamora township, adjoining the village, where he opened up and improved a good farm. There he died about 1877. His wife survived him a number of years and spent her last days with our subject, dying at his home in 1892.

Marcellus W. Wilson was a lad of fourteen years when the family came to Woodford county, and he assisted in the arduous task of breaking the land and improving the old homestead. His educational advantages were therefore limited. On leaving the parental roof at the age of seventeen, he commenced learning th ecarpenter's and joiner's trade, which he followed for eight years, and then bought a tract of eighty acres of land where he now resides and turned his attention to agricultural pursuits. He purchased an old school house which he moved to his land, and in that lived while opening up his farm. Meeting with success in his farming operations he was at length able to purchase an adjoining eighty-acre tract, and has converted the whole into a fine farm, which he has tiled, fenced and improved by the planting of an orchard and the erection of a pleasant residence, good barns and other



M. W. WILSON.

outbuildings. In connection with general farming he has engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of fattening hogs for market. His well directed labors have been crowned with success, for he is an industrious man, enterprising and persevering.

In Metamora township, January 6, 1854, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Wilson and Miss Patience H. Fairchild, who was reared and educated in Champaign county, Ohio, and when a young lady came to Woodford county, where she successfully engaged in teaching school prior to their marriage. They have one daughter, Emma, wife of S. S. Robinson, a substantial farmer residing on a place adjoining Mr. Wilson's farm. In the Robinson family are seven children.

Mr. Wilson cast his first presidential vote for Franklin Pierce, and in 1856 supported John C. Fremont, since which time he has been an ardent Republican. He takes an active interest in local politics, has served as a delegate to county and state conventions, and as chairman of the delegation from his county to the state convention in 1900. In 1896 he was one of the presidential electors and cast his ballot for William McKinley. For years he has efficiently served as a member of the school board and has done all in his power to secure better schools and competent teachers. He has witnessed the worthy growth and development of the county in the last fifty-six years, has seen the swamps drained and the wild land converted into productive farms, has seen towns and villages spring up, and the railroads, telegraph and telephones introduced. In the work of progress he has ever borne his part, and is justly entitled to honorable mention among the prominent pioneers and representative citizens of his adopted county. At the September meeting of the Old Settlers' Association of Woodford County, Mr. Wilson was elected president.

C. G. SCHROEDER.

C. G. Schroeder, a prominent lawyer of El Paso and one of the leading members of the Woodford county bar, is a native of Canada, born in Huron county, Ontario, January 13, 1862. His parents, Jacob and Catherine (Tousainte) Schroeder, were natives of Alsace Lorraine, Germany, the former born December 18, 1812, the latter January 15, 1822. They emigrated to America, the father in 1854, the mother two years later, and settled in Huron county, Ontario, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the father dying in 1887, the mother in 1880. In their family were five children, namely: Christiana; Jacob D., who resides on the old homestead in Huron county, Ontario; C. G., the subject of this biography; Elizabeth, wife of Louis Pockrand, of Nebraska; and Mary.

The early education of C. G. Schroeder was acquired in the public schools near his boyhood home in Canada, and he later attended the gymnasium at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the theological seminary of the Lutheran church at Springfield, Illinois, graduating at the latter institution October 17, 1883, with a select class. For some time he was engaged in ministerial work in western Nebraska, and from 1890 to 1898 was pastor of the German Lutheran church at El Paso, with which he still holds membership. Having only a small charge during his residence here, Mr. Schroeder de-

voted his spare time to the study of philosophy and law, the latter under the direction of Judge A. M. Cavan. He received the degree of Bachelor of Law from a Chicago law school in 1896 and was licensed to practice in June, 1897. The following year he entered into partnership with his preceptor, Judge Cavan, but this connection was dissolved in 1899 and he has since been alone in practice. He has one of the best equipped law offices in the county and is meeting with excellent success in his chosen profession.

On the 25th day of May, 1884, Mr. Schroeder was united in marriage with Miss M. K. Whitehouse, of Litchfield, Illinois, and to them have been born four children, namely: Justina K., Theodore William S., Lydia Emma and Alma Almeda. The family have a pleasant home in El Paso, south of the east side park. At the Republican county convention held at Roanoke, June 27, 1900, Mr. Schroeder was nominated for state's attorney for Woodford county and is making a strong canvass through the county and meeting with much encouragement.

ERNEST FREDERICK.

Much of the civilization of the world has come from the Teutonic race. Continually moving westward they have taken with them the enterprise and advancement of their eastern homes and have become valued and useful citizens of various localities. In this country, especially, they have demonstrated their power to adapt themselves to new circumstances, retaining at the same time their progressiveness and energy, and have become loyal and devoted citizens, true to the interests of their adopted country. Among this class is Ernest Frederick, one of Woodford county's most successful agriculturists.

He was born in Prussia, Germany, September 28, 1834, and for eight years attended the public schools of his native land, after which he learned the millwright's trade. In 1853, at the age of eighteen years, he resolved to try his fortune in America, and accordingly crossed the Atlantic and took up his residence in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, where he worked at the carpenter's and joiner's trade. He also spent some time in the Lake Superior region of northern Michigan. In 1858 he removed to Peoria, Illinois, where he engaged in business as a contractor and builder until 1867, when he came to Spring Bay, Woodford county, and purchased a mill, being successfully engaged in the manufacturing of flour until 1896. In the meantime he also bought land and devoted a portion of his time to agricultural pursuits, and now has a large and well improved farm just above Spring Bay.

In November, 1856, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Mr. Frederick married Miss Louisa Lingel, also a native of Germany, who came to the new world when sixteen years of age. By this union four children were born, namely: Frances, at home; William H., mentioned below; Emma, wife of William Greiner, of McDowell, Illinois; and Louisa, wife of Alfred Hoshor, a substantial farmer of Spring Bay township.

Since casting his first presidential vote for James Buchanan, in 1856, Mr. Frederick has been identified with the Democratic party, and has taken an active and prominent part in local politics, being a delegate to numerous conventions. He has been called upon to fill a number of political positions of honor and trust, having served as supervisor two years; a member of the

board of highway commissioners fifteen years and as treasurer of the board; township clerk; town clerk; assessor; collector; village treasurer and a member of the village board. He is now serving his sixth year as township treasurer, and has always discharged his official duties in a most capable and satisfactory manner. Both he and his wife were reared in the Lutheran faith, and are widely and favorably known, having made many warm friends during their residence in Woodford county. On coming to this counstances, but being industrious, ambitious and enterprising he has steadily worked his way upward to a position of affluence, and is to-day one of the most substantial men of his community.

HERMAN G. EICHHORN, M. D.

Among the younger members of the profession in Woodford county is Dr. Eichhorn, a prominent and successful physician and surgeon of Spring Bay. He was born in that village, April 20, 1872, a son of Peter and Catherine (Wenckler) Eichhorn. The father was born in Germany, in 1820, and there was reared and educated. Coming to America, in 1844, he first located in Peoria, Illinois, but later moved to Spring Bay, where he successfully engaged in the brewery business until his death, which occurred August 25, 1885. At one time he owned the property now occupied by the "Peoria Transcript," and became quite well-to-do. The Doctor's mother was reared and educated in Woodford county, her father, Christian Wenckler, being one of the pioneers of the county, locating here about 1830 or 1832. She is now the wife of Christian Guenther, of Spring Bay, whose sketch appears in this volume. By her first marriage she had four sons, namely: Herman G., our subject; William, who is married and engaged in farming; Charles, who is also doing for himself; and Algernon, at home with his mother.

The primary education of Dr. Eichhorn was obtained in the public schools of Spring Bay, and later he entered the Northwestern University at Evanston, where he pursued a four years' course. He then took up the study of medicine, attending lectures at the Northwestern Medical College, where he was graduated in 1896. For a short time he engaged in practice in Peoria, but in the spring of 1897 he returned to Spring Bay and opened an office. His skill and ability in his chosen calling were soon recognized and he has already built up an excellent practice, which is constantly increasing, and in fact he now has more practice than one man can well attend to, in justice to himself.

Dr. Eichhorn has been twice married, first in Chicago, in the spring of 1896, to Miss Olga Horwitz, of that city, who was reared and educated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and died December 28, 1898. At Lacon, Illinois, he was again married June 28, 1900, his second union being with Miss Louise Ehringer, one of the belles of that place, and the only daughter of Albert Ehringer, one of its business men. She was born in Washburn, Woodford county, but was reared in Lacon. She is a most estimable young lady, highly accomplished and a splendid housekeeper, a general favorite, and has a host of friends. The Doctor is independent in politics, voting for the men whom he believes best qualified to fill the offices regardless of party affiliations. He is a prominent citizen of Spring Bay and surrounding country

and is popular both in social and professional circles, and is a cultured and agreeable gentleman in every way.

JOHN H. WATSON.

Numbered among the honored veterans of the Civil war residing in Woodford county is John H. Watson, a well-known fruit grower of Cruger township, who for three years was one of the gallant defenders of the Union. He was born near Winchester, Frederick county, Virginia, in 1834, but was only three years old when he moved to Fairfield county, Ohio, with his parents, Thomas B. and Nancy (Franklin) Watson. The father was also a native of Virginia, but the mother was born in England and reared at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. By occupation Thomas B. Watson was a farmer and shoemaker. In 1854 he removed to Clark county, Illinois, where he died in 1873, and where his wife departed this time some years later. She was a distant relative of Benjamin Franklin. To them were born the following children: William is still a resident of Fairfield county, Ohio. Benjamin makes his home in Clark county, Illinois. John H., our subject, is next in order of birth. James is also a resident of Clark county. Aaron, a resident of Douglas county, Illinois, enlisted in Coles county, in April, 1861, at the first call for three-months troops, and later re-enlisting at expiration of his term as a Illinois Volunteer Infantry, with which he served throughout the remainder of the war re-enlisting at expiration of his term as a veteran volunteer. Samuel enlisted at Springfield in the One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and is now living in Cloud county, Kansas. Wesleyan is also living in that county. George makes his home in Oklahoma. Scott is a resident of Parsons, Kansas. Isaac was accidentally killed in Clark county, Illinois. In the family were also four daughters: Mary, wife of George Lamb, of Kansas, who was a member of the Old Hundred and Twenty-third Illinois Regiment during the war; Lucinda and Eliza, both deceased; and Nellie, wife of Scott Reed, of Douglas county, Illinois.

In September, 1855, John H. Watson came to Woodford county, and has since made his home in Cruger township. For a time he engaged in general farming, but now gives his entire time and attention to fruit growing. On the 7th of August, 1862, he joined the boys in blue of Company A, Eighty-sixth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the United States service at Peoria, the regiment being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. They participated in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, October 8, 1862; the engagement at Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Tunnel Hill, Buzzard's Roost and Kenesaw Mountain, and were under constant fire at Dalton, Georgia, from May 7 to June 27, 1864. At Kenesaw Mountain Mr. Watson was shot through the right leg and also in the back, and was confined in the hospital at Chattanooga for a time, then sent to Nashville, from there to Louisville, and later to Chicago. He was honorably discharged at Camp Douglas, in the last named city, June 9, 1865, and then returned to his home in Woodford county.

Prior to entering the service, Mr. Watson was married in Metamora township, in February, 1862, to Miss Sarah Ann Thompson, a native of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of John A. and Ruth

(Peterson) Thompson, who were also born in that state and at an early day moved to Ohio. The mother died in Schuyler county, Illinois in 1840, the father in Kentucky, in 1880. They had nine children, namely: Mrs. Mary Dunlap, who died in Cruger township, Woodford county, Illinois; J. A., who died in Kentucky; Mrs. Elizabeth Groesbeck, who died in Salt Lake City, Utah; Sarah Ann, wife of our subject; William, who was a member of the Seventeenth Indiana Regiment during the Civil war and died from injuries received in the battle of Shiloh; Amos, a well-known farmer who died near Piper City, Illinois; James, a resident of Ohio; and Ralph, who died in Schuyler county, Illinois; and Mrs. Ruth Fritz, of Ripley, Ohio.

Mr. Watson is a stanch supporter of the Republican party and its principles, and is an honored member of the Grand Army Post, No. 270, at Eureka. He is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him, and well merits the high regard in which he is held.

WILLIAM H. FREDERICK.

The subject of this sketch, a son of Ernest Frederick, is one of the most prosperous and progressive farmers of Spring Bay township. He has made his present field of industry an eminent success and is now operating eight hundred acres of land. A native of Illinois, he was born in the city of Peoria, July 31, 1861, and was educated in Spring Bay. He worked for his father for a number of years, and associated in opening up and developing the farm. In 1896 he located upon his present place, and has since successfully engaged in its management.

On the 6th of January, 1896, in Woodford county, he was united in marriage with Miss Cordelia Hoshor, a native of the county and a daughter of Perry W. Hoshor, who was also born here, but is now deceased. To them have been born three children: Florence, Edna and Ernest. In his political affiliations Mr. Frederick is a stanch Democrat and cast his first presidential ballot for Grover Cleveland. Being one of the leading and influential citizens of his community, he has become prominently identified with public affairs, and has filled a number of local offices such as township clerk, collector and trustee, and in 1892 he was elected supervisor, which position he filled so acceptably, that he has been continuously re-elected and is now serving his eighth year. He was a member of a number of important committees, including the building committee when the court house was erected at Eureka. While a resident of the village of Spring Bay he served as clerk and a member of the village board a number of years, being president of the board one term. Fraternally he is a member of the Masonic lodge at Chilicothe.

OSCAR J. LEMON.

For over a third of a century this gentleman has made his home in El Paso, and since reaching manhood had been actively identified with its business interests. He is a native of Illinois, his birth having occurred near Farmer City, Piatt county, May 12, 1853. His father, John I. Lemon, was born in Kentucky of Irish ancestry, and was there reared and educated. About 1835 he came to Illinois, and the following year was married in Berlin to Miss Ann M. White, also

a native of Kentucky, and a representative of one of its pioneer families. They began their domestic life on a farm in Piatt county, the father having purchased a tract of government land for one dollar and a quarter per acre. He added to the original purchase from time to time until he owned about a section of land, which he improved and placed under a high state of cultivation. On leaving the farm in 1866 he came to El Paso, where he lived a retired life until called to his final rest in 1882, at the age of eighty-five years. His wife died in 1884, at the age of seventy-eight. He came to El Paso for the benefit of his health, which improved. While following farming he devoted considerable attention to the raising of stock, and in that industry met with fair success. In politics he was a strong Republican and gave three of his sons to the service of his country. He was an active and influential member of the Christian church, and assisted in building the church in his neighborhood, always taking considerable pride in his work along that line. He was charitable and benevolent, and the poor and needy always found in him a friend. While living on the farm he entertained the widows of soldiers for weeks at a time, and the ministers of the church made his home their stopping place.

To John I. and Ann M. (White) Lemon were born the following children: James D. served four years in the Civil war and was killed at the battle of Deep Run, in 1865; William died while in the army of disease contracted from exposure; Enos also died from disease while in the army; Harvey G. died at his home in Colorado in 1882; Richard A. is an attorney of Clinton, Illinois; Lloyd died in 1864, at the age of twelve years; Oscar J., our subject, is next in order of birth; and Albert is a traveling salesman for a wholesale drug house, and a resident of Peoria.

The early education of Oscar J. Lemon was obtained in the common schools of Piatt county, and after coming to El Paso with his parents at the age of thirteen years, he attended the public schools for a time. When nineteen he learned the blacksmith's trade and later purchased a shop, successfully conducting business along that line for twenty-five years, and disposing of the shop in 1898. He gave his attention to general blacksmithing and horseshoeing, and also built many wagons in early days. He is at the head of the El Paso Ice Company, whose sales now amount to twelve hundred tons of ice annually and are constantly increasing. In this venture he has met with decided success, and is now running two wagons all the time in the distribution of ice.

In 1874 was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Lemon and Miss Dora Spencer, who was born in Portage county, Ohio, in 1856, but was living with a sister in El Paso at the time of their marriage. She has two sisters who are still residing near the old home in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Lemon have no children of their own but have given a home to his nephew, Burt Lemon, now twenty-five years of age, who is a painter of El Paso.

Politically Mr. Lemon is an ardent Republican, and has taken an active part in city affairs, serving as alderman in 1880 and as justice of the peace and police magistrate at the present time, this being his second term. He is a member of the blue lodge of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias Lodge, No. 42, and the Modern Woodmen Camp, all of El Paso, and also holds membership in the Christian church.

His honorable, upright life commends him to the confidence of all, and he is held in the best respect and esteem.

CHRISTIAN GUENTHER.

This honored and highly respected citizen of Spring Bay is now living a retired life. He was born in Wurtemburg, Germany, September 23, 1844, secured a good practical education in the public schools of that country, which he attended until twelve years of age. Later he was a student in high institutions of learning, and became familiar with the German and French languages, but his knowledge of English has been self-acquired. His father, Godfrey Guenther, operated a woolen mill and oil mill in Wurtemburg, in which our subject worked until 1863, when he emigrated to America, and worked at his trade for several years at Rockwell, near Hartford, Connecticut. Subsequently he was employed in a woolen mill at Maumee, Ohio, for nearly three years, and in 1868 moved to Peoria, Illinois, where he conducted a dyeing establishment until 1873. During the following thirteen years he was engaged in business in Toledo, Ohio, and then returned to Germany, spending about a year in visiting his old home and some of the prominent cities of the old world. In 1887 he returned to Peoria, and the following year accepted the general agency of the German Fire Insurance Company at that place, and devoted four years to that business, retiring at the end of that time on account of ill health.

In 1893 Mr. Guenther came to Spring Bay, and on the 7th of August, that year, married Mrs. Catherine Eichhorn, a daughter of Christian Wenckler, one of Woodford county's earliest settlers, having located here about 1830 or 1832. Mrs. Guenther was reared and educated in this county, and in 1870 married Peter Eichhorn, a prominent brewer of Spring Bay, who died August 25, 1885, leaving four children: Herman G., a successful physician of Spring Bay; William, a farmer; Charles, a farmer of Spring Bay; and Algernon, at home with his mother. Mr. and Mrs. Guenther were both reared in the Lutheran faith, and are people of the highest respectability. Politically he is a stanch supporter of the Republican party, and is now a member and clerk of the school board of Spring Bay, but he has never cared for political honors.

MOSES BELSLEY.

The subject of this sketch is one of the representative farmers of Roanoke township, Woodford county, Illinois, where he owns and operates a good farm of one hundred and eighty acres on section 16. Here he has made his home since 1897 and has placed the land under excellent cultivation. He raises principally corn and oats and is meeting with well deserved success in his chosen calling.

A native of Woodford county, Mr. Belsley was born in Worth township July 27, 1871, and is a son of Christian and Mary (Sweitzer) Belsley, both natives of Alsace Lorraine, France, which now forms a part of Germany. The father came to the United States with his parents when eight years of age and first settled in Spring Bay township, Woodford county. Since 1882 he has made his home in Roanoke and is now about sev-

enty years of age. His children are: Magdelene, wife of Christian Foerter, who lives near Roanoke; Kate, wife of John Sander, of that place; Samuel, who also lives near Roanoke; Mary, wife of Joseph Hodel, of Roanoke; Fanny, wife of John Moser, of Roanoke township; Christian, a resident of the village of Roanoke; Moses, our subject; Annie and Benjamin, both at home with their parents.

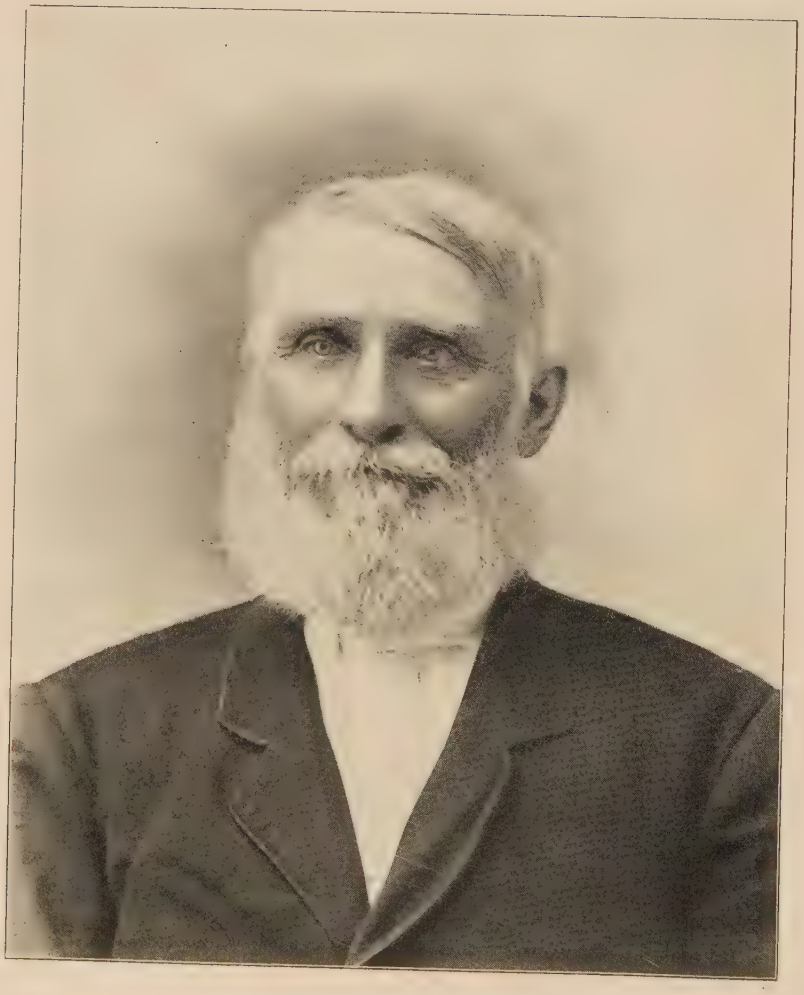
The boyhood and youth of Moses Belsley were passed in Worth and Roanoke townships and his education was obtained in their public schools. He has made farming his life work and in 1895 took charge of his father's farm, which he operated until locating upon his present place in 1897. On the 12th of October, that year, he married Miss Priscilla Salathe, a daughter of Jacob and Annie (Weynett) Salathe, both natives of Roanoke. Politically Mr. Belsley is identified with the Republican party, and socially affiliates with Roanoke Camp, No. 1206, M. W. A.

ELIJAH R. MARSHALL.

Among Woodford county's honored pioneers and highly esteemed citizens none are more deserving of mention in this volume than Elijah R. Marshall, a prosperous farmer living on section 7, Roanoke township. He was born in Mendon, Rutland county, Vermont, November 15, 1826, and comes of good old New England stock. His father, Thomas Marshall, was also a resident of the Green Mountain state, his birth occurring in Chester, Windsor county, March 13, 1801. Our subject's paternal grandparents were Elijah and Mary (Pierce) Marshall. The former, who was a soldier of the war of 1812, was born in England, November 6, 1766, and died in Chester, Vermont, September 24, 1835, while the latter was born near Boston, Massachusetts, September 5, 1768, and died in Chester, Vermont, May 4, 1833.

Thomas Marshall was reared and educated in his native state, and throughout his active business life followed the occupation of farming. On the 8th of November, 1821, he married Miss Martha Brooks, who was also born in Vermont, June 10, 1800, and belonged to an old New England family. By this union were seven children, namely: Lestina, married Abner Bailey, and in 1850 they came to Woodford county, Illinois, where they made their home for several years, but are now living in Kansas. Elijah R., our subject, and Mary, were twins. She married Samuel Butterfield, a resident of Cazenovia township, Woodford county, but is now deceased. Amelia married Emerald Fisher, of Cazenovia township, and they are now living in Cherryvale, Kansas. Solomon is deceased. Cyrus, the youngest of the family, makes his home in Butler county, Kansas. In 1850 the father came to Woodford county, Illinois, and after spending one year in Metamora township, settled in Roanoke township, where he lived until three years prior to his death. His last days were spent with a daughter in Cazenovia township, where he died September 4, 1879. His wife departed this life June 10, 1892.

Elijah R. Marshall remained at home with his parents until he attained his majority and is indebted to the public schools of Vermont for his educational advantages. In 1847 he came west by way of the lakes, canal and river to Peoria, Illinois, in company with an old schoolmate, Leverett Dean, who is



ELIJAH R. MARSHALL.

MRS. MARTHA MARSHALL.

now living near Springfield. From Peoria county they came to Cazenovia township, Woodford county, where Mr. Marshall's sister, Mrs. Butterfield, was living. After spending three weeks here they bought six horses and drove back to Vermont, making the trip in a little less than three weeks. The following March the men again started for Illinois. They crossed the Green Mountains in a sleigh, and by stage proceeded to Buffalo, New York. They continued their journey in that way through Canada until within twenty miles of Detroit, when the ice on the lakes broke up and the steamboats began to run. By boat they went to Detroit. As there were no regular stage lines or water courses at that time, they proceeded on foot to Ottawa, Illinois, covering on an average of fifty miles per day. On reaching Ottawa they found the Illinois river was open for navigation and higher than it has ever been since. There they took a boat for Peoria. Going to Brimfield, Peoria county, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Dean rented a farm and in partnership embarked in the sheep business, buying eight hundred head. Before the end of that first season, however, our subject sold his interest to his partner and then worked in the hay and harvest fields, mowing grass with a scythe for fifty cents per acre. In the fall he operated a threshing machine.

Mr. Marshall became a resident of Woodford county in the fall of 1849, and in February of the following year went to Springfield on horseback to get the deed for land which he had located on two land warrants. In June, 1850, he returned to Vermont and brought his parents and the remainder of the family to this state. That year he purchased the farm on section 7, Roanoke township, where he now lives. He built the first frame house and barn in the township, the former on section 6, the latter on section 7, and also built the second frame house, which now constitutes a part of his present residence. The barn is still standing, but the first house has been destroyed. Throughout life Mr. Marshall has engaged in agricultural pursuits, and meeting with marked success he has become the owner of five hundred and forty-five acres of valuable and productive land, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. He aided in the construction of the Illinois Central Railroad through this section of the state, and has been prominently identified with the growth and upbuilding of Woodford county. He fenced the first roads laid out in his township, and assisted in organizing the school district, it being through his efforts that they were made two miles square instead of two by three miles.

On the 17th of February, 1853, Mr. Marshall was united in marriage with Miss Martha Fisher, also a native of Mendon, Rutland county, Vermont. Her parents, Amos and Lydia (Stoddard) Fisher, natives of the same state, came to Illinois in 1840, and settled in Cazenovia township, Woodford county, where the father died March 10, 1850, the mother May 20, 1879. To Mr. and Mrs. Marshall were born four children: Amos F., the eldest, is a resident of Roanoke. Ira had successfully engaged in the practice of medicine at Chicago for about seven years when he died in that city of pneumonia, March 18, 1895, at the age of thirty-nine years and eighteen days. Rolla makes his home in Roanoke township. Orpha is the wife of James Lightfoot, of Cazenovia township.

Mr. Marshall and his family are all members of the Baptist church, and are people

of prominence in the community where they reside. Politically he always affiliates with the Republican party, and takes an active and commendable interest in public affairs. He has served as commissioner of highways, and for the long period of twenty years was a member of the school board. He has always been found true to every trust reposed in him whether public or private, and well merits the high regard in which he is universally held.

Mrs. Marshall passed to her final reward September 18, 1900, and was interred September 20, in the cemetery in Metamora township one mile west of the Roanoke Baptist church. She was a woman held in the highest regard by all and her death is sincerely mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

THE ROANOKE CALL.

The history of Roanoke would be incomplete without a sketch of its flourishing local paper, "The Call," now in its tenth volume, and a typical home paper, whose calling and mission is to "Give the home news first, last and all the time." While not an old publication, only one other paper published in the county is now conducted by the same parties who were at the helm at the time of its advent, in August, 1891. It is with pride that its editor, P. B. Hobbs, can point to its record for almost a decade and say that not an issue has gone forth that could not be taken into the homes and read at the firesides by every member of the household. Non-partisan in politics, it finds plenty of matter each week to make a readable sheet without dabbling in politics or peddling scandal, but strives always to advance the best interests and increase the happiness of all within its circle of influence.

Its editor is a native Illinoisan, having lived in the state all his life, with the exception of about six years, and came first to Woodford county in 1881. He is descended from early pioneers of the state, as his grandfather, David Hobbs, emigrated from Kentucky, with his bride, in September, 1830, and settled in Adams county, when Quincy was but a struggling village on the bluffs of the Father of Waters, and Chicago was known only as Fort Dearborn. Here he felled the giants of the primeval forest and built his log cabin and with his own hand held the plow that broke the stubborn glebe converting the rolling prairies into fertile fields. He also served his generation as an acceptable minister of the gospel, preparing his sermons during the week while he tilled his crops and riding far to officiate at weddings and funerals. His last resting place is within two miles of the spot on which he built his first cabin.

His oldest child was a son Jephthah Hobbs, born within six months after his parents came to the state. He grew to manhood in Adams county, serving his anprenticeship driving oxen, following the plow and mauling rails in a forest hard by, inheriting the love of Nature, so predominant in those who lived so close to her in her own realm, laying broad and deep the foundations of a great state.

An education was the boon which fired his ambition and he got it in spite of the disadvantages of frontier life. At twenty-one years of age he was recognized as a promising school teacher. Opening his first term of school in October, 1851, he made it his life work, closing his last term in May, 1892. He followed his chosen profession

continuously except for four years spent in Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia, under the instruction of Alexander Campbell, where he graduated in July, 1858, and during most of this time did the work of a tutor to the underclass men. For almost thirty years he was principal of graded schools in various cities and helped to build up that most enduring monument, the public-school system of our great commonwealth. Seven years he spent in a mission school for the colored race in Mississippi, and did his part to fit and prepare native teachers to carry on the work of uplifting the race, and prepare them for full citizenship. Having retired from active labors he now aids in the publication of "The Call" and conducts the Eureka column, having been a constant contributor to school journals and the press in general, during his entire career. He maintains his vigor to a remarkable degree and bids fair to reach his four score years and more.

P. B. Hobbs was born in Edgar county, in the village of Kansas, on the second day of the battle of Chickamauga, September 20, 1863, "that beautiful Sunday morning when Major-General Bragg drove General Rosecrans and the 'boys in blue' out of Chickamauga" and when General Thomas made himself famous as the "Rock of Chickamauga." His youth was spent much as the lives of his companions, except that in addition to attending school and running errands, he served an apprenticeship at the "art preservative" or in common phraseology, served as "printer's devil" under S. Will Rose, of "The Republican Sun," and was thereby doomed to follow in the footsteps of the immortal Benjamin Franklin. After completing his course in the graded schools of the state, at the different places at which the family resided,—as the family of an Illinois school master, like that of a Methodist preacher, may be said to be "raised on the road,"—he entered Eureka College in October 14, 1881, and received his sheepskin June 25, 1885.

After a year spent in teaching, he followed the advice of that immortal editor and "went west to grow up with the country." Five years growing, in Chase county, Nebraska, sufficed to convince him that Illinois was good enough, and after securing a piece of land out of Uncle Sam's domain a ndimbibing with the western atmosphere unmeasurable experience in frontier life in general and western journalism in particular he returned to the state of his birth and founded "The Call" at Roanoke, in August, 1891. Here he has labored, cheerfully and persistently, content in doing something to make the lives of those about him somewhat more worth living. The fourth generation is represented by Master Harry O. Hobbs, aged ten years, who long since earned his title as junior member of the firm and can set his "stick" of type with the assurance that it will appear in print, and even wields the editorial "We" in doing the honors of the shop when visitors call.

JOHN G. ZELLER, M. D.

On the 17th of June, 1893, there passed away from his home in Spring Bay, Illinois, a well beloved physician, whose many years of faithful toil in his profession made his name a household word in that community. He was a man whose death was felt as a loss among all classes and the following brief account of one so esteemed will be read with unusual interest.

The Doctor was a native of Germany.

born in Bavaria December 10, 1828, and comes of a long line of German ancestry. His boyhood and youth were spent in his native land and in 1847 he came to America, but two years later returned to Germany and did not locate permanently here until 1853. He then entered a medical college at St. Louis, Missouri, where he took two courses of lectures, and was graduated, receiving the degree of M. D. Soon after his graduation he came to Spring Bay, Illinois, and was engaged in practice here for about a year. He then returned to St. Louis, where he married Caroline Nichols, who died in Spring Bay, leaving four children: Alexander, George A., Josephine and Frederick. George A. and Frederick are successfully engaged in the practice of medicine in Peoria. The latter and his sister, Josephine, visited Europe in the summer of 1900.

Dr. Zeller again took up his residence in Spring Bay and continued in active practice here until his death. He was again married, in September, 1865, his second union being with Miss Caroline Winckler, a native of Woodford county, where she was reared and educated. Her parents, Christian and Elizabeth (Snider) Wickler, were both born in Germany and when young came to this country, where their marriage was celebrated. They were pioneers of Woodford county and were numbered among its most highly respected citizens. By his second marriage Dr. Zeller had five children, two of whom are deceased, Katie dying at the age of thirteen years, and John at the age of four. Those living are Julius C., a Methodist minister now located at Manteno, Illinois, who is married and had three children; Christina, who married Everett Oglebee, of Rockford, Illinois, September 26, 1900; and William L., at home.

Politically Dr. Zeller was an ardent Republican and served as justice of the peace, president of the town board and in other positions of honor and trust. He always enjoyed a large and lucrative practice and succeeded in accumulating a large estate. On coming to the county, however, he was in limited circumstances, and his success in life was due entirely to his own well-directed efforts. He was widely and favorably known and his memory will be a sacred inheritance to his children and will be cherished by a multitude of friends. Throughout his career of continued and far-reaching usefulness his duties were performed with the greatest care, and during a long life his personal honor and integrity were without blemish.

GEORGE WINKLER.

This well-known and successful agriculturist of Spring Bay township, Woodford county, whose home is pleasantly situated on section 36, four and a half miles from Peoria, is a native of the county, his birth having occurred in Worth township January 14, 1856. His father, George Winkler, Sr., was born in Germany, in 1815, and in 1830 came to the new world with his father, Adam Winkler. The family first located in Pennsylvania, but after spending five years in that state came to Illinois and took up their residence in Woodford county, being among its first settlers. In Worth township Adam Winkler opened up and improved a farm.

George Winkler, Sr., was married, in Woodford county, to Margaretta Hemfling, also a native of Germany, and a daughter of Nicholas Hemfling, who brought his family to America during her childhood and settled

here. After his marriage Mr. Winkler continued to make his home in Worth township, where he successfully engaged in farming throughout life, dying there in February, 1899, at the advanced age of eighty-four years. His wife survives him and lives with a son on the old homestead. In their family were eight children, four sons and four daughters, namely: Yetha, wife of Charles Greiner, of Spring Bay township; Amanda, wife of George Greiner, of Harvey, Cook county, Illinois; George, Jr., our subject; Margaretta, wife of Morris Braudigan, of Nebraska; Anna, wife of A. Haedicke, of Tazewell county, Illinois; Henry F., of Spring Bay township, Woodford county; and Peter L. and Charles, both at home.

During his boyhood and youth George Winkler, Jr., assisted his father in the labors of the farm and attended the district schools of the neighborhood to a limited extent, but his literary education has been mostly self-acquired since reaching manhood. On leaving the parental roof he engaged in farming on rented land for eight years, and in 1885 purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres on section 36, Spring Bay township, to the improvement and cultivation of which he has since devoted his energies. When he located thereon the place was run down, the old house was in poor repairs and the improvements were all of an inferior order, but he has since built a large and neat residence, good barn, granary, cribs, etc., and in other ways has added greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place.

On the 7th of December, 1880, in Worth township, Mr. Winkler was united in marriage with Miss Louisa S. Haedicke, a native of that township and a daughter of Adolph and Hannah S. (Braudigan) Haedicke, who were born in Germany and as young people came to the United States, their marriage being celebrated in Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Winkler have three children living: Elmer G., Austin L. and Dewey E. One daughter, Palma, died at the age of three months.

Politically Mr. Winkler has been a lifelong Republican, but at local elections he votes for the man whom he believes best qualified to fill the office, regardless of party affiliations. His fellow citizens, recognizing his worth and ability, have called him to office, and in 1897 he was elected justice of the peace and in 1899 supervisor. Although his township is Democratic he received a good majority. He has also served as commissioner of highways, a member of the school board six years and clerk of the district. No trust reposed in him has ever been misplaced and he has discharged his official duties with the utmost promptness and fidelity. As a member of the county board he is now serving on the road and bridge committee and is chairman of the veteran aid committee. Both he and his wife are members of the Lutheran church of Peoria.

FOSTER BENJAMIN.

Among the brave men who devoted the opening years of their manhood to the defense of the country from the internal foes who sought her dismemberment was Foster Benjamin, now a prominent citizen of the village of Cazenovia. He was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, November 12, 1843, and is a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Payn) Benjamin. The father was born in New Jersey and when young moved to

Coshocton county, Ohio, with his parents, David and Ruth (Paddock) Benjamin, who were pioneers of that county and there spent the remainder of their lives. On reaching manhood Joseph Benjamin married Elizabeth Payn, a native of Coshocton county, where they continued to make their home for some time after their marriage, and then moved to Owen county, Indiana, where he opened up and improved a farm. His death occurred there in April, 1889. Later his wife spent one year in Woodford county, Illinois, and then returned to Indiana, where she died in 1895. By occupation he was first a shoemaker and later a farmer. Foster is the second in order of birth in their family of eight children, the others being David J., who was a member of the Twenty-ninth Indiana Regiment during the Civil war and is a resident of Owen county, that state; Mrs. Julia C. Scott, of Clay county, Indiana; John N., of Owen county; George H., of Greene county, Indiana; Mrs. Mary Matilda Williams, of Owen county; Russell, of Greene county; and Andrew, who died while our subject was in the service of his country in 1864.

Foster Benjamin was reared and educated in Owen county, Indiana, and on starting out in life for himself chose the occupation of farming, to which he devoted his energies until his retirement from active labor. In October, 1861, he enlisted at Gosport, Indiana, in Company A, Fifty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, for three years. He was sworn in at Camp Hughes, Indiana, where the regiment was assigned to the Army of the West. He participated in the battles of New Madrid, Fort Pillow, Corinth and Iuka, the siege of Vicksburg and the engagements at Yazoo Pass. On the 22d of May, 1863, he received a shell wound in the side and was confined in the department hospital at Vicksburg for some time. He rejoined his regiment at Vicksburg, from whence they went to Missionary Ridge, where he served on detached duty from that time until the close of the war. He was with Sherman on the famous march to the sea and was honorably discharged at Wilmington, North Carolina, April 4, 1865, after which he returned to his home in Indiana.

In Owen county, that state, Mr. Benjamin was married, in 1867, to Miss Elizabeth A. Gardner, who was born in that county. Her parents, Jarus and Permelia (Hilsabeck) Gardner, were natives of New York and North Carolina, respectively, and early settlers of Owen county, Indiana, where they made their home for many years. In 1867 they removed by team to Woodford county, Illinois, and located at Low Point. By occupation the father was a carpenter and farmer. His father was Jarus Gardner, Sr., who for forty-five years was a minister of the gospel in the Methodist church. Mrs. Benjamin is the oldest of their children, the others being Mrs. Laney Dyer, of Low Point; Joseph M., of Marshall county, Iowa; Jarus B., a physician and surgeon of Manilla, Iowa; David H., of Rose Lawn, Indiana; William Albert, a hotel keeper and undertaker of Manilla, Iowa; Mrs. Albert Readout, of Union, Iowa; Parmelia, of Union, Iowa; George W., a farmer of Stuart, Iowa; Foster Edison, a railroad man of Sioux City, Iowa; and Francis B., of Rose Lawn, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin have three children: Mandy C., now the wife of Samuel Mundell, Jr., a merchant of Cazenovia, by whom she has four children, Maggie Alice, Foster Le Roy, Hazel G. and Maria Elizabeth; Viola Berdilla, who

died at the age of eight years; and Cuma Alice, wife of Jesse Mundell, also a merchant of Cazenovia, by whom she has one son, Lee Benjamin.

Mr. Benjamin continued his residence in Indiana until 1867, when he moved to Woodford county, Illinois. Here he successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1900, when he moved to the village of Cazenovia, and is now living a retired life. Formerly he affiliated with the Democratic party, but is now a Prohibitionist in politics. Religiously both he and his wife are earnest members of the Christian church and are held in the highest respect and esteem by all who know them.

JOSEPH ENGEL.

The subject of this sketch, who is one of the prosperous citizens of Metamora township, Woodford county, is now successfully operating a fine farm of two hundred acres on section 28, within a mile of the city of Metamora. He was born on that place May 8, 1854, and there the greater part of his life has been spent. The family to which he belongs is one of the oldest and most highly respected families of the county. His grandfather, Peter Engel, was a native of France, and on his emigration to America, in 1831, took up his residence in Metamora township, Woodford county, Illinois, entering the land on which our subject now resides.

The father, Peter R. Engel, was born in Alsace, France, in 1828, and was only seven years old when brought by his parents to the United States. He grew to manhood in Woodford county and married Barbara Nofsinger, also a native of Germany, who came to the new world in childhood and was reared in Illinois. Peter R. Engel succeeded to a part of the old homestead and meeting with success in his farming operations he became the owner of four good farms. He died March 12, 1888, honored and respected by all who knew him. His wife survives him and resides on the home farm with our subject.

During his boyhood Joseph Engel pursued his studies in the local schools and gained a thorough knowledge of agriculture upon the home farm, where he remained until he was married, in Woodford county, February 24, 1876, to Miss Mary Garber, a native of Pekin, Illinois. By this union were born six children, as follows: Lloyd E., who attended the Metamora schools and later engaged in teaching, but is now a student at the State University in Champaign; Carl, who assists his father in the operation of the farm; Emanuel P., Arthur, William J. and Frances, all at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Engel began their domestic life on a farm three miles east of Metamora, where they made their home for five years, and then removed to Tazewell county, Illinois, Mr. Engel being engaged in farming near Cruger for ten years. In 1891 he returned to the old homestead, having succeeded to a part of the farm, and has since added to his portion until he now has one hundred and twenty-eight acres here. In connection with this he operates other land and is the owner of a good farm of one hundred and sixty acres in Hamilton county, Nebraska. He is also engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of sheep, and now has a flock of forty-five pure-blooded Shropshires. He is accounted one of the most thrifty farmers and successful stock raisers of his community.

Politically he is identified with the Republican party, but takes no active part in politics aside from voting, as he prefers to give his undivided attention to his business interests. He is well known throughout his native county and those who know him best are numbered among his warmest friends, which fact testifies to his sterling worth.

THOMAS ELLIS.

Prominent among the successful farmers of Cruger township may be numbered the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. A native of the Keystone state, he was born in Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, April 15, 1825, and is a son of Robert and Mary (Dunn) Ellis, who were born in Ireland, and on their emigration to the new world settled in Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, making their home near Lewistown, where the father engaged in farming throughout his active business life. He died there in 1864, and his wife also died in Pennsylvania some years later. Of their nine children Eliza died in Pennsylvania; Robert came to Woodford county, Illinois, at an early day, and later crossed the plains with teams to California, but is now living in Kansas; James is a resident of Pottsville, Pennsylvania; George came to Woodford county in 1853, and from here went to Kansas, where he enlisted in a Kansas regiment during the Civil war and was killed in the service; John makes his home in Kansas; William, who served three years in a Pennsylvania regiment during the Civil war, died in Pottstown, that state, about 1895; Catherine died in Kansas; Mrs. Jane Nearhard lives in Snyder county, Pennsylvania; and Thomas, our subject, completes the family.

In the county of his nativity Thomas Ellis was reared and educated in much the usual manner of farmer boys of his day, and he remained there until coming to Illinois in 1853. He spent three or four months in Montgomery township, Woodford county, and then returned to Pennsylvania, but in 1854 we again find him in the same township. The following year he purchased a farm in Waldo township, Livingston county, there being no settlements between Gridley and Panola at that time. In 1858 he returned to Pennsylvania by team, and did not locate permanently in this state until 1865, when he purchased his present farm in Cruger township, Woodford county. To its improvement and cultivation he has since devoted his energies, and now has one of the best farms of its size in the locality.

In McLean county, Illinois, Mr. Ellis was married, in 1858, to Miss Elizabeth Fleming, also a native of Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, and a daughter of William and Mary (McKinley) Fleming, who spent their entire lives in Pennsylvania and were among the early settlers of Mifflin county. To Mr. and Mrs. Ellis were born three children: Caroline, wife of Joseph Dearth, of Olio township, Woodford county; Eliza Jane, wife of W. O. Davidson, of Cruger township; and Maggie, wife of Fred Barrett, of Eureka.

During the Civil war Mr. Ellis enlisted in the Pennsylvania state militia, and was stationed at Chambersburg for ten days. By his ballot he always supports the men and measures of the Republican party, and takes an active interest in political affairs. He assisted in the organization of Cruger township, and has been prominently identified with its development and upbuilding almost continuously since 1853. As one of the pio-

THOMAS ELLIS.

neers and honored citizens he is certainly deserving of representation in this history of his adopted county.

MICHAEL DENNIS.

Numbered among the leading farmers of Kansas township, Woodford county, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He owns and operates a rich farm of one hundred and twenty acres, eighty acres being on section 4, and forty acres on section 9. A native of the Buckeye state, Mr. Dennis was born in Monroe county, Ohio, September 16, 1837, and is a son of John and Rachel (Barnhouse) Dennis. The father was born and reared in Pennsylvania, and at the age of twenty-one went to Virginia, where he farmed for some years. Subsequently he spent a number of years in Monroe county, Ohio, and in the fall of 1852 moved to Allen county, Indiana, where he followed farming until his death, which occurred when he was seventy-four years of age. By industry and perseverance he accumulated considerable property, becoming owner of a fine farm of one hundred and twenty acres in Indiana. The mother of our subject survived him about four years and died at the age of fifty-four. She had eight children, six of whom are living, Michael being the oldest. The father was twice married, his first wife being Elizabeth Slacher, who also bore him eight children.

The first fifteen years of his life Michael Dennis spent in his native county, and was educated in the district schools of his birthplace. He remained with his parents until he was married, June 24, 1860, in Allen county, Indiana, to Miss Hannah Jane Craig, a daughter of William and Mary (Brister) Craig, farming people of that county, who in 1867 came to Woodford county, Illinois, and spent the remainder of their lives in Kansas township. Their son, Andrew J. Craig, is still a resident of that township. The father, who followed farming throughout life, died at about the age of seventy years. After his death the mother lived with her daughter, Mrs. Dennis, at whose home she died at the age of seventy-five.

Eleven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis, namely: (1) Mack, born in Allen county, Indiana, is now a farmer of Hancock county, Iowa. He is married and has two children, Rosa Ardela and James Andrew. (2) The second child of our subject died unnamed. (3) Eliza, born in Allen county, Indiana, is the wife of Henry Rich, a prosperous farmer of Hancock county, Iowa, and they have five children, Amie, Katie, Edmund, Lela and Dora. (4) Mary, born in Woodford county, Illinois, is the wife of J. L. Nash, a farmer of El Paso township, that county, and they have three children, Arabelle, Lillie Annie and Pearly May. (5) Arena and (6) Joseph both died in infancy. (7) William S. died at the age of sixteen years. (8) Eli died in infancy. (9) Enoch, of Bloomington, Illinois, and (10) Christopher C., who assists his father in the operation of the home farm. (11) The youngest child died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Dennis engaged in farming in Huntington, and Allen counties, Indiana, until after the Civil war broke out, when he enlisted in 1862, in Company H, Seventy-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battle of Chickamauga and several skirmishes, and was discharged March 13, 1865, on account

of disability caused by a gunshot wound received at the battle of Chickamauga. Returning to his home in Indiana, he continued to follow farming there until the fall of 1868, when he brought his family to Woodford county, Illinois, locating first in Montgomery township, where he remained seven years. He then purchased his present farm in Kansas township, and to its cultivation and improvement has since devoted his energies, at the same time giving some attention to stock raising. When he located thereon the land was covered with dense brush, but soon acre after acre was cleared, and it is now all under a high state of cultivation and is one of the best farms in the township. He has erected a large farm house and spacious barn, and has made many other improvements which add greatly to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He is one of the men, who by industry and perseverance has helped to make Woodford county what it is today, one of the richest farming districts in the state. Politically Mr. Dennis is a Democrat. For eighteen years he has efficiently served as school director in his district, and at the present time is commissioner of highways of Kansas township, which office he has held for two terms.

JOSEPH MOORE.

The subject of this sketch, who is now living a retired life in the village of Roanoke, Woodford county, Illinois, was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, January 10, 1828, and is the son of Thomas and Dorothy (Spitzer) Moore, the former a native of Germany, and the latter of Pennsylvania, but of German extraction. Thomas Moore was an exceptionally well educated man, who, after coming to the United States, devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. He had a family of ten children, eight of whom grew to maturity. Reuben is now deceased. Rebecca married William Fletcher, but both are now deceased. David is also deceased. Andrew now resides in Missouri. Philip lives in California. Joseph makes his home in Roanoke, Illinois, while Isaac is living in Nebraska. Sarah married William Gallihue, who died several years ago. She now makes her home in Rockingham county, Virginia. Joseph is the subject of this sketch.

Joseph Moore resided in his native state until 1869, and was there principally engaged in farming. During the Civil war he served his state for three years, the greater part of the time in the quartermaster's department. He was taken prisoner at Harrisonburg, Virginia, and was held at Fort McHenry for nine months, the war then closing. In 1869 he came to Woodford county, Illinois, and located about one mile south of Roanoke, where he engaged in farming until 1881, when he moved to the village where he has since resided.

Mr. Moore was married April 4, 1849, Miss Sarah Jane Lower, a native of Orange county, Virginia, and daughter of Michael and Ann (Gibbons) Lower. Her father was a Pennsylvanian by birth, while her mother was born in Virginia. Of the four children born to Joseph Moore and wife, Susan Virginia married W. B. Gish, but is now deceased. William P. resides in Roanoke, Illinois. Charles L. is living in Candow, North akota, and N. R. is represented on another page of this volume. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. In politics Joseph Moore has always been a Democrat.

N. R. MOORE.

Among Roanoke's representative business men and progressive citizens is N. R. Moore, manager of the firm of Bartlett, Frazier & Company, of Chicago. A native of Virginia, he was born near Harrisburg, Rockingham county, January 8, 1865, and is a son of Joseph Moore, now a resident of Roanoke, Illinois. The family came to this state in 1871 and settled in Roanoke, where our subject was educated in the public schools. He commenced his business career as a clerk in the drug store of D. B. Zimmermann, at the age of eighteen years, and there served an apprenticeship of six years, at the end of which time he received a certificate of registration as a pharmacist that he has kept in force up to the present time. During the following five years he was employed as clerk in the general mercantile establishment of R. A. Peterson, of Roanoke, and for one year was in the grain business for Henry Tropitz, of that place. At the expiration of that time the property was taken possession of by Bartlett, Frazier & Company, of Chicago, and by them Mr. Moore has since been employed as manager. While connected with the drug business he learned telegraphy, and has had the management of the Postal Telegraph Company at Roanoke since 1893. He is a wide-awake, energetic business man, and has the entire confidence and esteem of the firms with which he is connected.

On the 16th of June, 1886, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Moore and Miss Lula Upton, of Roanoke, and to them have been born four children: Mabel, born June 20, 1889; Flora, born December 12, 1892; Floyd, born October 29, 1896, and an infant born July 19, 1900. Mr. Moore has ever taken an active interest in public affairs, and has officially served as village clerk two terms and school director for two terms. Socially he is connected with the Modern Woodmen of America, and religiously is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church.

SALMACIOUS B. DEARTH.

The subject of this review is one of the highly respected citizens of Palestine township, Woodford county, his home being on section 29. He was born in Marion county, Ohio, October 26, 1833, a son of Isaac and Mary Ann (Rogers) Dearth, in whose family were five children, all now deceased with the exception of our subject, the oldest child. The mother died when quite young. The father, also a native of Ohio, engaged in milling in Marion county for some years, and in 1853 moved to Tazewell county, Illinois, where he lived retired from active labor until called from this life at the age of sixty-five years.

Until he attained his majority S. B. Dearth continued to live in his native county, and there received his early education. Coming to Illinois in 1853, he settled in McLean county, where he worked by the month as a farm hand for two years, and then engaged in farming on rented land in White Oak township, that county, and Mackinaw township, Tazewell county. During the Civil war he moved to Butler county, Iowa, where he owned some land, and remained there seven years. On his return to Illinois, he located in Kansas township, Woodford county,, where he rented a farm which he continued to occupy for nine years. He next rented his present farm of forty

acres on section 29, Palestine township, and in connection with its operation works at the carpenter's trade, to which he has devoted a portion of his time for thirty years. He is a supporter of the Republican party and its principles, and has served as school director in Palestine township, his last term of office expiring in 1898.

On the 10th of September, 1856, in Bloomington, Illinois, Mr. Dearth led to the marriage altar Miss Mary J. Fordyce, who is the youngest in a family of nine children, four still living. Her parents were Lebbious and Catherine (Carpenter) Fordyce. The father was a native of Ohio, and resided in Morgan county, that state, some years. A half century ago he moved to McLean county, Illinois, and engaged in farming and stock raising in White Oak township, though he was a lawyer and followed that profession in Ohio, until coming to this state. He died in Tazewell county, at the age of fifty-four years. On first locating in McLean county he bought fifteen hundred acres of land for one dollar and a quarter per acre. Mrs. Dearth lost her mother when only seven years old.

Of the nine children born to our subject and his wife, Edwin died at the age of fifteen months, and Salena, the first wife of John Frye, died at the age of twenty-one years. She has one child, Elva, who was born in Kansas township and died at the age of seven months. Those of the family still living are as follows: (1) James, born in McLean county, married Etta Neargraith. He is a armer of Bowling Green, Palestine township, Woodford county, and has served as constable and school director. (2) Henry, born in McLean county, is also a farmer and school director of Palestine township. He married Mollie Beber and they have two children, Carl and Mary. (3) Segal, born in McLean county, March 3, 1863, is prevented from work by being a cripple and resides at home with his parents. (4) Samuel, born in Clarksville, Iowa, is now running a tile factory and brick works in Edgewood, that state. He married Eliza Elliott, and they have three children, Harry, Taylor and Oral. (5) Frances, born in Kansas township, Woodford county,, is the second wife of John Frye, a farmer of Olio township, and they have one child, May. (6) Stephen, born in Woodford county, is a farmer of Kansas township. He married Lizzie, daughter of Jacob Hexamer, of Palestine township, and they have two children, Nellie and Violet. (7) Albert, born in Kansas township, married Mary Michel, of El Paso township, and he is now employed as a stationary engineer in Palestine township.

E. L. McCLINTOCK.

The subject of this sketch is one of Woodford county's native sons and a representative of one of her most prominent and honored families, whose identification with her history dates from an early period in the development of the county. He was born in Olio township, January 27, 1850, and is a son of John and Elizabeth (Brown) McClintock, the former born in Maryland, the latter born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. They were married in Pennsylvania and in the early '30s migrated to McLean county, Illinois. Later they came to Woodford county and took up their residence in what is now Olio township, where the father bought a claim that had not been improved, it being the farm on which our subject now resides.

When he located here the country was all wild and unsettled and game was abundant. He assisted in organizing his township and county, and bore an active part in the work of development and progress. In politics he was a Democrat. For many years he devoted his time and attention to the improvement and cultivation of his farm, but spent his last days in retirement from active labor in Eureka, where his death occurred in 1884. His wife died in that city the same year. To them were born nine children; live of whom are still living, namely: Jesse, who resides near Normal, McLean county; William, who served three years in the Civil war and is now a resident of Bloomington, Illinois; Joseph, who is living near Kappa, in Woodford county; E. L., our subject; and Mrs. Mary Frye, of Eureka.

On the home farm E. L. McClintock passed his boyhood and youth, early becoming familiar with every department of farm work, and acquiring his literary education in the district schools of the neighborhood. He now owns and operates the old homestead, which is a well-improved farm of sixty-five acres, besides forty more which he has added, on which he has erected a good residence. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and is meeting with well-deserved success in his labors.

In 1872 in Olio township, Mr. McClintock led to the marriage altar Miss Mary Bullington, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of John and Catharine (Mater) Bullington, the father a native of Kentucky, and the mother of Ohio, who at an early day came to Woodford county, Ilinois, and located permenently in this county, about 1860, where the father died in 1890, but the mother is still living at the age of eighty-four years, and finds a pleasant home with our subject. His brother, Robert Bullington, was one of the early pioneers of the county, and is now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. McClintock have three children: Jennie, Mabel and Edna. In his political affiliations Mr. McClintock is a Democrat, and he has efficiently served as a member of the school board in his district. He takes an active interest in public affairs and gives his support to all measures which he believes will in any way benefit his community.

HON. A. H. BRUBAKER.

Honored and respected by all, there is no man in Woodford county who occupies a more enviable position than A. H. Brubaker, of Benson, not alone on account of the brilliant success he has achieved, but also on account of the honorable and straightforward policy he has ever followed. For many years he was actively identified with the business and political interests of the county, but is now living a retired life at his beautiful home in Benson.

Mr. Brubaker was born in Little Conestoga Creek, near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, April 11, 1833, and is a son of Jacob B. and Anna (Huber) Brubaker, who belonged to an old colonial family of Swiss origin. Their descendants are now scattered throughout Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Canada and the west. Farming has always been the principal occupation of the family. Longevity is numbered among its characteristics. Our subject's paternal grandfather was eighty-seven years of age at the time of his death, and his father died at our subject's home in Benson, August 2, 1895, at the same age.

The early education of A. H. Brubaker was limited to a short attendance at the pub-

lic schools of his native county. In 1852 he married Miss Catherine Schneider, also of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, and three years later they started west, stopping first in Chicago, and from there went to Freeport, Illinois, where he remained for a short time. We next find him in Peoria, and from there he came to Woodford county, where he purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land on section 4, Greene township, of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Here he made a permanent location, and in his farming operations met with excellent success, becoming owner of much valuable land in Woodford county. In 1884 he embarked in mercantile business in Benson, and also shipped grain east and west, but since October, 1895, has lived a retired life, enjoying a well-earned rest.

Mr. Brubaker's first wife died February 9, 1864, leaving four children, namely: Maria married Benjamin Zirkle and they reside near San Angelo, Texas; Aaron married Ida Huxtable and they make their home near Lexington, Dawson county, Nebraska; Hiram married Lida Tool and they reside in Benson, Illinois; Sarah is the wife of Joseph Wells and they live in Joliet, Illinois. For his second wife Mr. Brubaker married, December 6, 1866, Miss Elizabeth Brubaker, a native of Richland county, Ohio, and a daughter of Hiram Brubaker, who was born in Pennsylvania. He moved to Ohio in 1821 and there resided until 1851, when he came west and located in Woodford county, Illinois, near Eureka. Here he resided for four years and then moved to where the town of Roanoke, Woodford county, now stands. He died at the home of our subject April 18, 1880, at the age of eighty-four years and nine months. He and his wife were the parents of nine children, of whom three are now living, namely: John, who is making his home in Joliet, Ilinois; Elizabeth, wife of our subject; and Daniel, who is engaged in farming in Normal township, McLean county, Illinois.

Of the four sons born to Hiram Brubaker and wife all enlisted and served in the Civil war. Three brothers of our subject also served in the war of the Rebellion, Samuel, Jacob and John. Jacob rose from the ranks to captain in the regular service.

Of the six children born of the second marriage of A. H. Brubaker, Henry C. died July 31, 1899, at the age of twenty-nine years; Emma M. married J. E. Eckhart, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Minnie E., wife of George Jeter, resides in Greene township, Woodford county; while Jennie A., Clarence M. and Nettie P. are yet residing at home. Clarence M. is taking the scientific course at Wesley University, at Bloomington, Illinois, and Nettie P. is attending the schools of Benson.

Politically Mr. Brubaker is a strong Republican and expansionist, and he has taken a very active and prominent part in public affairs, having served as supervisor from 1878 to 1880, inclusive, and again from 1888 to 1890. He was the candidate of his party for county judge, in 1868, and in 1886 was elected to the state legislature in which he served one term. He was the originator of the bill which favored holding three terms of court in Woodford county, and introduced the bill for dating seeds and patent medicines, any act to qualify justice of peace and jurisdiction and practice of justice of peace and fix duties of constables. He most ably represented his district and took an active part in the work of the house. Mr. Brubaker was a charter member of the

Agricultural Association, organized in 1879, and for twenty years has served as president of the Roanoke Fire Insurance Company, which he was instrumental in organizing. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist church, and are held in high esteem in social circles. Their home is a magnificent structure on Front street, which was built in January, 1891, from Mr. Brubaker's own plans, and which is supplied with all the modern improvements of a fine city residence, being lighted by gas, heated by steam and furnished with three kinds of water and all sanitary arrangements. Here hospitality reigns supreme and host and hostess take great pleasure in entertaining their many friends.

Mr. Brubaker can relate many interesting incidents of pioneer days when grain was hauled to market in sacks on ox carts, and when there were no bridges and roads were poor. He was the first man in Greene township to get a carload of tile, and was laughed at by the less progressive citizens, but his sound judgment was soon shown by the productiveness of his land, and his farms are now worth one hundred and twenty dollars per acre. As a stock raiser he also met with excellent success, being considered an expert hog raiser, as he never had a case of cholera on his farm. At one time he raised eighty hogs which averaged four hundred and twelve pounds each.

JOSEPH W. KELLOGG.

The subject of this sketch, who is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits on section 36, Cazenovia township, Woodford county, Illinois, was born on the 9th of December, 1839, in Champaign county, Ohio, and is the only child of John and Laura (Darling) Kellogg. The father was a native of Vermont, and when a young man migrated to Ohio, where he married. The mother died in Champaign county, that state, in 1842, and four years later the father was again married in Vermont, his second union being with Dorothea Boyington, also a native of that state. In 1853 he came from Ohio to Woodford county, Illinois, and purchased land in Metamora township, which he improved, and upon which he still continues to live at the age of eighty-three years. By his second marriage he had three children: Martha; Mrs. Phebe B. Murphy, of Metamora township; and Lorenzo, who died at the age of fifteen years.

Joseph W. Kellogg came to Woodford county with his father and was reared and educated in Metamora township. Soon after the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted at Peoria, in July, 1861, in the Forty-seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for three years or during the war. He was a member of a company under command of Captain Wilcox, of Minonk, but was soon taken ill and honorably discharged on account of disability. Later he re-enlisted, September 19, 1864, for one year, in Company D, Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the Gulf department of the Western army. He was mustered into the United States service at Springfield, and participated in the battle of Spanish Fort, Fort Blakely and the siege of Mobile. His regiment was the first to enter Fort Blakely, and he was one of the first men to get inside the fort. He took part in the Texas expedition and was on detached duty at Jefferson, that state, for a time. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged at

New Orleans, in September, 1865, and returned to his home in Woodford county. In 1873 he went to Phillips county, Kansas, and took up a claim, on which he lived for four years, but with that exception he has made his home in Woodford county, and is now the owner of a good farm of eighty acres on section 36, in Cazenovia township.

At Roanoke, in 1865, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Kellogg and Miss Melissa Spangler, a native of Olney, Illinois, and a daughter of Henry and Rosella Spangler, who were early settlers of Richland county, Illinois, and are both now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg were born eight children, as follows: Mrs. Minnie Hall, a resident of Hastings, Nebraska; John Henry, who died in 1892; Zacharaiah, of Menona county, Iowa; Laura Esther, wife of S. W. Newton of Wilcox, Nebraska; Jesse Warner, who is married and lives in Metamora township, Woodford county; Charles Lewis, of Roanoke; Jennie and George, both at home. As a Republican Mr. Kellogg takes an active interest in political affairs, and has efficiently served as a member of the school board in his district.

ANDERSON VAN SCYOC.

Anderson Van Scyoc is one of the largest land owners of Woodford county, and is aslo one of the best known and most successful farmers and stock raisers in the community in which he lives. His homestead of eight hundred acres of valuable land is pleasantly located on section 28, Palestine township, and is one of the model farms of the county, being improved with a commodious and pleasant residence, large barns and substantial outbuildings. Indeed it is supplied with all the conveniences and accessories needed by the progressive agriculturist of the twentieth century.

Mr. Van Scyoc came to Woodford county March 5, 1838, and has not only succeeded in becoming independent but has accumulated a large fortune. When he located in this section of the state it was all known as McLean county. His father's family settled near the present home of our subject. At that time there was scarcely more than a dozen families within as many square miles. They selected what they considered the most fertile soil, and John Van Scyoc, father of our subject, bought the claim of William Mitchell, and when the land came into market purchased it from the government. Upon this eighty-acre tract he spent the remainder of his life, and it is still in possession of the family. He died July 18, 1857, at the age of fifty-nine years and ten months. He was one of the best known pioneers of the county, an intelligent, industrious, hard working man, whose chief object in life seemed to be the promotion of the interests of those who lived and were dear to him. He put forward every possible effort to leave his family comfortably provided for. He was a native of Virginia, presumably of Dutch ancestry, and was reared in what is now Marshall county, that state. There he married Margaret Shepherd, who was probably born in the same state, and after their marriage he engaged in farming in Virginia for some years. To them were born three children, of whom our subject is the youngest. Kittie died near Shelbyville, Indiana, in the springtime of life, having reached the age of eighteen years. Amanda is now the widow of Asa E. Sparks, a merchant of El Paso, Illinois, where she still resides. Her children are Robert, a

ANDERSON VAN SCYOC.

farmer on section 30, Palestine township, Woodford county; Anderson, a farmer of Iowa; Maggie, wife of William Dorsey, a stone mason of El Paso; Amos, a farmer of Iowa; John, a teamster of El Paso; Edward, a farmer of Palestine township; and Clara wife of William T. Tegard, of El Paso.

Anderson Van Scyoc was born in Marshall county, Virginia, July 12, 1822, and was about thirteen years of age when the family moved to Shelby county, Indiana. Many incidents connected with his boyhood in that state are still fresh in his memory. After three years spent in Indiana, he came with his parents to Woodford county, Illinois and the journey, made in true pioneer style, with teams and wagons, is still impressed upon his mind with the same vividness as events of recent occurrence. Two weeks were occupied in this trip and at last they arrived at the Mackinaw river. The land along that stream was then unmolested, rough and untrodden, by the white men, game abounded in the timber and the river teemed with the finny tribe. Soon the neighborhood began to attract other people, and comfortable homes were built at intervals. The nearest market places were Pekin and Peoria, where the settlers took their grain and in return received their supplies. After a few years of active labor in this community the father died and the mother continued to live with our subject until her second mariage, which took place a few years later, she becoming the wife of James Pearson. When again left a widow she made her home in the village of Kappa until her death, which occurred May 13, 1878. She had at that time passed her four score years. She, as well as her first husband, Mr. Van Scyoc, was a member of the Methodist church.

Amid pioneer scenes Anderson Van-

Scyoc grew to manhood, and for some years he aided his father in the improvement and cultivation of the home farm in Woodford county. In early manhood he established a home of his own, being united in marriage December 31, 1857, with Miss Mary L. Carr, who was born in Georgetown, Indiana, in 1840, a daughter of Abraham and Maletta Carr, natives of Virginia. Her parents spent most of their lives in Indiana until the spring of 1857, when they came to Woodford county, and resided for some time in Palestine township. The father was a carpenter by trade and met death while in pursuit of that occupation, being fatally injured by falling off an ice house on which he was at work. He was about sixty years of age and was at the time of his death a resident of Kappa. His first wife died at the same place about two years prior. Mrs. Van Scyoc was sixteen years of age when she came to Illinois with her parents, and was married the following year. After a few short years of happy wedded life she died October 22, 1865. She had endeared herself to all who knew her, and was loved and admired for her strength of character. She left three children, while one son, Charles Edward, preceded her to the final rest. Those living are as follows: (1) Margaret M., is the wife of John Davidson, a native of Woodford county, and a farmer of Palestine township, and they have two children, Mary and Mildred. (2) John A., a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Palestine township, married Ida M. Berger, and they have six children, Charles, Beulah, Grace, Mabel, Hazel and Bessie. (3) William A., born in Woodford county, April 21, 1863, was educated in the common schools of Palestine township, and is still living on the home farm. On the 25th of September, 1895, he married Clara

Van Alstine, a daughter of John and Mary (Hart) Van Alstine. Her father is a prominent farmer and large stock raiser of Greene township, Woodford county. One child blesses this union, William Anderson, born December 5, 1898.

Mr. Van Scyoc was again married, April 17, 1873, his second union being with Mrs. Margaret J. Pierce, who was born in Marshall county, Illinois, August 26, 1835, a daughter of Henry Shepherd. Her first husband was John Pierce, who died November 29, 1862.

For many years Mr. Van Scyoc was actively and successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits, and accumulated a valuable property. In addition to his home farm of eight hundred acres of rich and arable land, he owns several others in Palestine township, having one hundred and sixty acres on section 20; one hundred and twenty acres on section 32; eighty acres on section 20; eighty acres on section 26; and two hundred and sixty acres on section 24. He also has six hundred acres in Greene township, and one hundred and seventy-five acres in Kansas township, Woodford county, a one-hundred-and-sixty-acre tract adjoining Padua, McLean county; and sixty acres in Hudson township, the same county. His landed possessions in Woodford and McLean counties aggregate something over twenty-four hundred acres of land, mostly improved. He still resides upon his farm but has laid aside business cares, and is now living retired, surrounded by all the comforts of life. He is a man of keen discrimination and sound judgment, and is an able financier, who has carried forward to successful completion whatever he has undertaken.

Mr. Van Scyoc is a man of liberal ideas in matters of religion, and usually votes the Republican ticket. He has served as supervisor and has held other township offices, giving universal satisfaction in whatever place he has been called upon to fill. A man of unbounded enterprise, his success in life is due to his own well-directed efforts, and he deserves prominent mention among the leading and representative business men of the county.

DOMINIQUE JACQUIN.

The subject of this review, who is a retired farmer and highly esteemed citizen of Metamora, Illinois, was born in Lorraine, France, April 7, 1833, and when a lad of fourteen years came to America with his parents. On landing in this country they at once proceeded to Illinois, and in June, of that year, took up his residence near Washington, Tazewell county, where the father purchased a farm and engaged in its operation until his death in 1863.

Dominique Jacquin attended school to a limited extent in his native land, but his knowledge of English has been self-acquired. He assisted his father in the cultivation and improvement of the home farm in Tazewell county until he attained his majority, and then started out in life for himself as a farmer, operating land for a number of years. On the 24th of July, 1857, in Tazewell county, he married Miss Elizabeth Baker, who was born in that county of German parentage, and to them have been born six children, as follows: Anna C., wife of C. W. Andrew, who is engaged in the grain business in Walnut, Bureau county, Illinois; Sophia C., wife of Jefferson Griggs, of Metamora; Helen M., wife of A. L. Herriford, of Springfield, Illinois; Nicholas J., who is

married and lives in Peoria; Mara Vicdora, wife of Burt Tyler, of Springfield; and J. William, who is married and resides in Louisiana, Missouri.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacquin began their married life upon a rented farm in Tazewell county, where they made their home for several years. In 1869 he embarked in the mercantile business at Metamora, which he carried on for seven years with good success. In the meantime he purchased a farm of eighty acres in Metamora township, Woodford county, in 1872, which he rented until his retirement from business, when he resumed agricultural pursuits. Later he sold that place and bought one hundred and sixty-four acres of land near Metamora, to the further improvement and cultivation of which he devoted his energies until 1894, when he rented it and moved to Metamora, where he has since lived a retired life, enjoying a well earned rest, free from the cares and responsibilities of business life. The prosperity that has come to him in business is but the just reward of honest labor, for on starting out in life for himself he was without capital and has been dependent entirely upon his own resources.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Jacquin has always affiliated with the Democratic party and cast his first presidential vote for James Buchanan. He has been a stanch friend of education and public schools, and has efficiently served as township trustee a number of years. He was reared in the Catholic faith but holds membership in no church, though he gives to the support of the Protestant churches. His wife attends the German Lutheran church. He united with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Washington, Illinois, and has filled all the chairs in that lodge, being past grand. Wherever known he is held in high regard, and his circle of friends and acquaintances throughout Woodford county is extensive.

WILLIAM N. BATEMAN.

Prominent among the successful agriculturists and highly esteemed citizens of Kansas township, Woodford county, is William N. Bateman, whose home is on section 9. He is a native of Ohio, his birth having occurred in Ross county, January 23, 1827. There he spent the first sixteen years of his life, and in 1843 came to Illinois with his parents, William and Susan (Roe) Bateman. The father was also born in Ross county, Ohio, and passed much of his boyhood there, but after the death of his father went with his mother to Kentucky, where he remained until he attained his majority. Returning to Ohio he was married in that state, and followed farming there until 1843, when he moved to Illinois, locating on Big Indian creek, in La Salle county, where he followed the same pursuit for a few years. Subsequently he made his home for a time in Peoria county, and in 1848 went to Texas, where he engaged in farming and stock raising until 1852. During that year he removed to Illinois and settled in Metamora township, Woodford county, where he followed his chosen profession for thirty years, but his last days were spent in retirement from active labor in the village of Kappa, where he died August 23, 1873, at the age of sixty-six years. The mother of our subject died in Texas, in 1849.

William N. Bateman is the oldest in a family of nine children, and he remained

under the parental roof until he was married, May 29, 1856, at Metamora, to Miss Louisa West, a daughter of James and Catherine (Cress) West, who are prominent agriculturists living near Metamora, and are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Bateman were born fourteen children, six of whom are now deceased, including their eldest daughter, Missouri B., who was the second wife of Daniel Gingerich, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Four sons and four daughters are living, namely: Catherine, wife of Allen Harper, a farmer of Kansas township; Columbus, a farmer of Minnesota; Mollie, wife of Warren Search, a brickmaker of Bloomington, Illinois; Albert, James, Walter, Gertrude and Ada, all at home.

After his marriage Mr. Bateman lived in Metamora until the spring of 1858, when he moved to Ray county, Missouri. While there the Civil war broke out, and he entered the Union army. He received a slight wound which caused him almost to lose the sight of one eye, and after serving one year he was discharged August 1, 1865. He then returned to Illinois and settled in Kansas township, Woodford county, he having purchased forty acres of his present farm before enlisting, in Kansas township in 1864, which at that time was all wild land. He has added to his landed possessions from time to time as his financial resources have increased, until he now owns a thousand acres of improved land, and is still successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. In his home farm he has one hundred and sixty acres, a like amount on section 4, and all of section 5, Kansas township. Industrious, enterprising and reliable, he has made for himself an honorable record in business, and by his well directed efforts has acquired a handsome competence. On starting out in life he was in rather limited circumstances, but he has always been a hard working man, and to this and his good business ability may be attributed his remarkable success. For many years he has been a member of the Masonic fraternity, and of El Paso Lodge for twenty-six years, and his life has been in harmony with its teachings.

JOHN CARSON.

John Carson, a retired contractor and builder, residing in Eureka, Woodford county, has been a resident of the county since 1857. He was born in Wayne township, Adam s county, Ohio, March 12, 1827, and is a son of John and Rachel (Beam) Carson, both of whom were born in the same county, the former at Manchester, on the Ohio river, January 9, 1801, and the latter in the same town, August 1, 1799. Her parents were from Pennsylvania.

James Carson, the paternal grandfather, was born in Belfast, Ireland, of Scotch ancestry. His wife, Jane, was also born in that city. They came to America when young, locating in New York, where their Adams county, Ohio, March 12, 1827, and to Ohio territory, when it was nothing more than a vast wilderness. His son, John Carson, the father of our subject, grew to manhood in his native county and there married Rachel Beam. He was by occupation a farmer, a vocation that he followed throughout life. He always avoided holding office, though ever ready to do his duty in the material interests of his county. In politics he was a Democrat, and, religiously, a mem-

ber of the Missionary Baptist church, very strict in behavior and stanch in his views. He died September 29, 1877, while his good wife, who was also a member of the Baptist church, departed this life May 15, 1861.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood and youth on his father's farm, and received a good practical education in the schools of the neighborhood. He assisted his father in farm work until he was twenty years of age, when he was apprenticed to learn the carpenter's trade. After completing his term with his employer he worked as a journeyman in Brown county, Ohio, until 1857. While still residing there he married Miss Mary Pickrill, a native of Annetta died when two years old. John L. Pickerill, a prominent citizen of that county. By this union were born ten children. Albert W. is married and has two children, Bert and Jessie. He is engaged in the practice of medicine in Dover, Kansas, Lucinda, now Mrs. Ward, resides in Baker City, Oregon. Alexander died in infancy. Sarah died at the age of twenty-six years. Mary Annette died when two years old. John L. is a practicing physician of Bakersfield, California. Hannah E., now Mrs. Frank Kent, resides in Washington, Illinois. Fannie, twin sister of Hannah, is now the widow of O. M. Kent, of Eureka. She has one son, Charles M. David L., a postoffice official of Topeka, Kansas, is married and has two children, Albert and Enid. Lola M., now Mrs. L. W. Allison, of Eureka, is the mother of three children, Vergia, Jay A. and Lottie F. All the children were given good educational advantages, which were specially improved. Mrs. Carson, who was a consistent member of the Christian church from the time she was fourteen years old, was called to her reward, April 23, 1880. She was a loving wife and affectionate mother, and her memory is cherished not alone by the bereaved family, but by many friends.

In November, 1882, Mr. Carson was again united in marriage, choosing for his second wife Mrs. Jemima Karr, *nee* Swearingen. She, too, has been called away, her death occurring November 1, 1883, aged forty-seven years. On the 30th of July, 1885, Mr. Carson married Mrs. Mary J. Swearingen, *nee* Somers, who died August 27, 1893. For his fourth wife he married Mrs. Mary A. Ennis, *nee* Black, March 20, 1894. She died September 5, 1898.

In September, 1857, Mr. Carson came with his family to Woodford county, Illinois, and located in the village of Washburn, where he engaged in contracting and building, and while residing there did a large business, putting up the greater number of the houses erected in the village and surorunding country. He had purchased a small tract of land, but from the fact that he could not purchase any of the land adjoining, he sold out and later purchased a quarter-section of land near Minonk, and also a half-section near Gilman, Illinois. In was his intention of moving to the tract near Gilman, but after considering the matter in every way and looking especially to the future well-being of his children, he determined to move to Eureka, that he might give them the benefit of its schools.

Locating in Eureka in 1867, for some years Mr. Carson did a large business in contracting and building, and many of the best houses in that locality were put up under his supervision. During his more active career he gave employment to a good many men. For the past twenty years he has been less active in building enterprises, especially as age was advancing. His own beautiful

residence, in the midst of a tract of seven and a quarter acres of land, is as fine a piece of property as there is to be found in Eureka. The house he erected in 1867. Adjoining the city, he has all the advantages of both city and country.

Mr. Carson has done considerable trading in real estate, and now owns much property in Eureka. The farm near Gilman was disposed of years ago and the money placed at interest. By his frugality, industry and temperate habits, he has become the possessor of a competency that enables him to live at ease and take such recreations as he thinks best for his general happiness and well-being.

For six years Mr. Carson served as school director, and he was also on the township board of trustees for several years, but he has never had any special desire for office or for official honors. Always a friend of education, he has given of his means in aid of Eureka College, and has devoted considerable time in the interests of public schools. The north school house in Eureka was erected under his supervision, while he was director.

From the organization of the Republican party to the present time Mr. Carson has voted the party ticket, but he has never been a politician in the current acceptation of the term. He has always believed that a man could use his time to better advantage than in local politics. The first year after his marriage he united with the Christian church and for about fourteen years served as a deacon in the church of Eureka. While not now holding an official position in the church, yet he takes the same strong interest in its welfare and in the cause of the Master. Wherever known he is held in the highest esteem.

HENRY CLYDE HAYES.

The subject of this sketch, now chief engineer and manager of the Eureka electric light plant, was born in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, April 22, 1871. His father, ohn Henry Riggs Hayes, was born in the same place, and is a son of Dr. William Hayes, a native of England, who came to the United States when a child and lived some time in Baltimore, Maryland, where he married. Later he moved to Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where he engaged in the practice of medicine, but his last days were spent in Clarence, New York. He and his family were very prominent in the Christian church, with which he was officially connected. The father of our subject grew to manhood in his native place, where he followed farming for some time, but later owned and operated a lage farm near Brandon, Knox county, Ohio. In 1887 he left Ohio, and after spending one year in Illinois, went to Kansas, locating at Yates Center, Woodson county, where he took up a tract of wild land and improved a farm. He is now successfully engaged in farming and stock raising near Fort Scott, Bourbon county, the same state. He is a well educated man, being a graduate of Hopedale College, and successfully engaged in teaching school for some years. In politics he is a Republican, and by that party was elected to several offices in Woodson county, Kansas. He is an active member of the Christian church and served as elder while living in Ohio. In Mt. Vernon, that state, he married Miss Caroline Daily, who died leaving three children, of whom our subject is the eldest.

Henry C. Hayes began his education in the schools of Knox county, and later attended the schools of Woodford county, Illinois, his father and the family having stopped here

one year on their way west. He went with them to Woodson county, Kansas, but at the age of fifteen returned to Eureka, where he took a course in the high school in 1890, Going to Fairbury, Illinois, in 1892, he found employment in the electric light plant, where he learned the business of an electrician and machinist, and where he worked his way upward until he was made head of the establishment. He remained there until 1897, and then returned to Eureka to take charge of the electric light plant at this place. The water plant is connected with it and does all the city pumping. Mr. Hayes thoroughly understands his chosen occupation, and is meeting with excellent success.

On the 29th of June, 1898, he was united in marriage with Miss Erma V. Earnheart, a daughter of James Franklin Earnheart, an old and honored settler of Fairbury. They now have a little son, John Franklin, born July 24, 1899. Mr. Hayes is a member of the Christian church, while his wife holds membership in the Methodist Episcopal church. He also belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Odd Fellows Lodge of Fairburg, in which he held office during his residence there. In his political affiliations he is a Republican, and is now an efficient member of the board of education of Eureka.

James Franklin Earnheart was born in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, September 1, 1834, and was reared by Christian parents, his father being a Methodist minister. When a child he went with his parents to Campbellsburg, Washington county, Indiana, and from there with his father to a farm two and a half miles southwest of Fairbury, Illinois. The family later moved to Greencastle, Indiana, where he attended Asbury (now De Pauw) University, his father having been connected with that institution from its organization. After finishing his course in the University he returned to Indian Grove township, Livingston county, and March 20, 1856, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Eady Carr Moore, and to them were born nine children, of whom Mrs. Hayes is the youngest. He enlisted in the war for the Union in July, 1861, in Company E, One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, as a private. He was, however, soon detailed as a regimental armourer and postmaster, and served as such until honorably discharged in Setember, 1864. Returning home, he purchased a small farm northwest of Fairbury, where he lived until 1862, when he sold and was successfully engaged in the implement business for five years. He then moved to Phillips county, Kansas, in 1879, but after two and a half years he returned to Fairbury, where he lived retired until his death, September 9, 1900. He was a lifelong member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and one of the oldest members of Livingston Lodge, I. O. O. F., and took an active interest in that order. His wife is yet living.

FRANCIS X. HAUSSLAR.

Among the highly respected and honored citizens of the village of Secor is Francis X. Hausslar, who for over forty years was actively identified with its business interests, but is now living a retired lfe. He was born n Alsace, France, March 3, 1834, and is the twelfth in order of birth in a family of sixteen children, whose parents were Ferdinand and Barbara Hausslar, also natives of France, where the mother died at the age of sixty-four years. The father served as a

soldier in the French army under Napoleon III., and was in the service at the time of the Emperor's capture. He distinguished himself for his bravery on field of battle.

In his native province Francis X. Hausslar was reared and educated, and with his father learned the harness maker's trade, which the latter always followed in France. On the 2nd of July, 1841, our subject came with his father and oldest brother to the United States, and first located in New York city, where he began learning the trade of a carpenter and cabinet maker, which he followed for some years. He also worked at piano manufacturing and the making of billiard tables. In 1858 he came to Illinois and settled in Secor, Woodford county, where he has since made his home. Upon coming to this village he continued to work at his trade of a carpenter and cabinet maker for some time, and later engaged in the furniture and undertaking business, which he followed until 1900, when he sold out the business and is now living a retired life.

At the age of twenty-four years, Mr. Hausslar was married in the city of New York to Miss Magdalena Deitz, a daughter of Frederick Deitz, a German by birth, who came from Baden when a young man and settled in New York city. Mrs. Hausslar died in 1887. Three children were born to them, namely: Alexander died in Secor at the age of about fourteen years. F. August is now engaged in the carpenter business in Peoria, Illinois. He married Ellen Richard and they have two children, Arthur and Nellie. Caroline is the wife of Charles Slemmer, a carpenter of Secor, and they have one child, Edward. In 1892 Mr. Hausslar was again married, in Secor, his second union being with Miss Emma R. Prescott, a daughter of Reuben S. and Mary (Baker) Prescott. For many years her father was engaged in mercantile business in St. Charles, Illinois, where he died at the age of seventy-nine years, while his wife died in Batavia, this state, at the age of eighty-two. Mrs. Hausslar is the third in order of birth in their family of ten children, four of whom are now living.

Mr. Hausslar was reared in the Roman Catholic faith, but in early life became a Protestant, and for many years was a member of the Methodist church. Later he was a constant attendant and supporter of the German Evangelical church, in which he served as class leader for some years, but is now a Christian Scientist, which belief he has maintained for six years. As an upright Christian man, he is held in the highest esteem by his fellow citizens, and it is safe to say that few men in Secor have more friends than Francis X. Hausslar.

DANIEL GINGERICH.

Among Woodford county's most prosperous and substantial farmers must be numbered Daniel Gingerich, who owns and occupies a valuable farm of eight hundred acres on sections 6 and 7, Kansas township, all of which is improved and under a high state of cultivation. His early home was on the other side of the Atlantic, for he was born in Germany, April 29, 1832, and is the only child of Peter and Louisa (Ritter) Gingerich, who spent their entire lives in that country, both dying at an advanced age.

Our subject passed his boyhood and youth in the place of his birth, and was educated in its common schools. Having heard of the advantages afforded young men in the

DANIAL GINGERICH.

new world, he decided to try his fortune in America, and accordingly, at the age of nineteen years, he crossed the ocean, landing in New York city. He proceeded at once to Chicago, and for a few months worked on the Michigan canal. Later he was employed at unloading canal boats at La Salle, Illinois, for a short time, and in 1852 went to Tazewell county, where he worked on a farm one year. He was next employed as hostler in Peoria for a short time, and then accepted a position as porter in the Peoria House, where he remained three or four years. After his marriage he opened a boarding house in that city, which he successfully conducted until 1862, and then came to Woodford county, where he run a gristmill and distillery at Bowling Green, Palestine township, for upwards of six years. In 1868 he traded that property for one thousand acres of land in Missouri, which he afterward traded for a part of his present farm in Kansas township, Woodford county, where he has made his home since 1869. At that time it was nearly all wild land, but he has since cleared it and placed it under excellent cultivation, at the same time erecting thereon good and substantial buildings. He has added to this property until he now has eight hundred acres of rich and arable land in Kansas township besides four hundred and ten acres in Palestine township, which he rents, and one hundred and ten acres of partially improved land in Montgomery township, also occupied by a tenant. He also owns a section of land in Clay county, Mississippi. Since it came into his possession Mr. Gingerich has resided upon his farm in Kansas township with the exception of ten years when engaged in the saloon business in El Paso. At the end of that time he returned to the farm, and has since devoted his energies to its improvement and cultivation.

In 1856 Mr. Gingerich was united in marriage with Miss Adelia Engel, who was born in France in 1835, and came to this country with her parents when quite young. She died soon after their removal to El Paso, in 1872. Maria, the only child born of this union, died in Peoria, at the age of eleven months. In August, 1874, Mr. Gingerich was again married, his second union being with Miss Missouri B. Bateman, who was born in Metamora township, Woodford county, in June, 1857, and was the oldest daughter of William N. and Louisa Bateman, who are represented on another page of this volume. Three children blessed this marriage, all born in El Paso, namely: Peter N., born December 26, 1875, was educated at El Paso and in Kansas township, and now aids his father in the operation of the home farm; Louisa Cora, born December 11, 1877, and Missouri Belle, born February 18, 1880, are both at home. Mrs. Gingerich, who was a devoted wife and loving mother, died June 13, 1882, in Kansas township, by accidental drowning while attempting to ford the Mackinaw river, there being no bridge across the stream in that township. Her remains were interred in White Oak cemetery. She was greatly loved by all who knew her, and her death was widely and deeply mourned.

Mr. Gingerich has taken quite an active part in public affairs, holding the office of government inspector of distilleries in McLean and Woodford counties for four years, and serving as mail carrier in Peoria for three years under General Swett, then postmaster of that city. He has also been school director and commissioner of highways in Kansas township. Under both Lincoln's and

Grant's administrations he affiliated with the Republican party, but since that time has voted the Democratic ticket. Fraternally he is a member of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery of El Paso. He and his family are members of the Mennonite church, and as an upright, honorable man, he is held in high regard by all who know him.

HORACE L. McOMBER.

One of Panola township's most honored and highly respected citizens is Horace L. McOmber, who has made his home in Woodford county since 1856, and has since been prominently identified with its agricultural interests. He was born in Galway, Saratoga county, New York, September 17, 1827, a son of Israel and Laura (Hayes) McOmber, also natives of New York. The first of the McOmber family to come to America settled in Rensselaer county, that state. Our subject lost his father when only two years old, and his mother died in 1848, at the age of forty-six years. Their children were: Isaac and Lewis, both deceased; Horace, our subject, and Israel, deceased.

In his native state Horace L. McOmber grew to manhood, and was educated in the common schools of his day. In 1852 he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret J. Brown, also a native of Saratoga county, New York, and a daughter of Justus Brown. To them were born four children, namely: Laura J., wife of Clinton T. Swartz, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Hattie, wife of William H. Peard, of Eureka, Illinois; Lewis, a farmer of Gridley township, McLean county, Illinois; and Eddie, a resident of Taylor Ridge, Illinois, is pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church. He has been located at Taylor Ridge for the past four years. He is a member of the Rock Island conference.

Mr. McOmber followed farming in the Empire state until 1856, when he came to Woodford county, Illinois, and from the Illinois Central Railroad Company purchased eighty acres of his present farm on section 34, Panola township. As his financial resources have increased, he has added to his landed possessons from time to time until he now has one hundred and twenty acres in Panola township, and one hundred and twenty-five acres in Gridley township, McLean county. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and has met with excellent success in his life work, becoming one of the well-to-do as well as one of the highly respected citizens of his community.

In politics Mr. McOmber is independent, voting for the man whom he considers best qualified to fill the office regardless of party lines. Religiously he is a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal church, and a liberal supporter of the same. Upright and honorable in all things, he has exerted a great influence for good in the community where he has so long made his home. He has never used, nor would he allow any one in his employ, to use profanity, and he is a man whose word is always considered as good as his bond.

GIDEON JETER.

For almost fifty years this gentleman has made his home in Woodford county, and his name is inseparably connected with the agricultural and political interests of his com-

munity. He now resides on section 9, Greene township. He was born in Bedford county, Virginia, December 3, 1814, a son of Henry and Annie (Craft) Jeter, also a native of the Old Dominion. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, spent nearly his entire life in Bedford county, but about eleven years prior to his death went to Missouri to make his home with a son, where he died at the advanced age of eighty-six. His wife had died in Virginia some years before. In their family were five children, four sons and one daughter, of whom our subject is the fourth in order of birth and is now the only survivor.

Gideon Jeter grew to manhood in the county of his nativity, and there obtained his early education. He was first married in Botetourt county, September 19, 1839, to Miss Sarah G. Baldwin, a daughter of George W. Baldwin, of Virginia, who was a school teacher by profession and a man of prominence in his community. She died in that state, October 6, 1844. Of the three children born of this union, one died in infancy unnamed, and Elizabeth died in Roanoke county, Virginia, at the age of eight years. James M., the oldest, was born in Virginia, September 18, 1840, and came with his father to this state. He was educated in the district schools of Roanoke township and gained a thorough knowledge of agriculture by aiding his father in the operation of the home farm. He now owns two hundred and seventy-eight acres of fine farming land besides five acres of timber land. He served as supervisor of Greene township ten years, as justice of the peace a number of years, and has filled nearly all of the township offices. He wedded Mary Peterson, daughter of Samuel Peterson, a prosperous farmer of Roanoke township, and to them were born ten children, nine of whom are living, namely: Jennie, Lewis, George, Mrs. Sallie Houtz, Orville, John, Pearl, Jessie and Mary.

Before leaving Virginia Mr. Jeter was again married, January 30, 1845, his second union being with Miss Lucy Ann Leonard, a daughter of George and Catherine (Summers) Leonard, also Virginians by birth. Throughout his active business life the father followed farming. After reaching the age of seventy-five years he came to Illinois and spent his last days with his daughter, Mrs. Jeter, in Roanoke township, Woodford county, where he died at the advanced age of ninety-seven years. His wife died at the same place when seventy-eight years of age. They had ten children, five sons and five daughters, all of whom are living with the exception of two. By his second marriage Mr. Jeter had seven children: William H., a farmer of Kendall county, Illinois; Luther J., a grain dealer of Yorkville, Kendall county; Virginia P., wife of J. B. Hatcher, an implement dealer and collector of Peoria, by whom she has three children, Lottie A., Frank B. and Carrie; John C., a farmer of Kane county, Illinois; Martha, who died at the age of eight years; Sarah C., who died in Virginia at the age of two years and ten months; and one who died in infancy unnamed.

In 1853 Mr. Jeter left his old home in Virginia and came to Woodford county, Illinois, where he has since made his home. He first purchased one hundred and twenty acres of wild land in Roanoke township, which he broke, improved and placed under excellent cultivation, and later bought eighty acres of land in Linn township, and still later forty acres adjoining his present home on section 9, Greene township, but has since

sold all his farm property with the exception of the land on which his residence is located, and is now living a retired life. He still owns a couple of dwelling houses in the village of Roanoke.

Mr. Jeter has ever taken an active and prominent part in public affairs, and has been elected to several responsible positions. While a resident of Roanoke township he filled all the township offices, serving as its first treasurer and filling that position two years. He was supervisor for the long period of fourteen years; assessor for ten years, road commissioner nine years; and school director over sixteen years. He also served as coroner of Woodford county for one term of two years, and has faithfully discharged every duty devolving upon him, whether public or private. In politics he has always been a Democrat, and in religious belief he is a Baptist. His election to public office shows the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens, and he has always proved worthy of their regard. Although eighty-six years of age, and his wife seventy-eight, they still enjoy good health, and are now living a quiet, retired life, surrounded by a large circle of friends and acquaintances who esteem them highly for their sterling worth.

WILLIAM A. DAVIDSON.

William A. Davidson, who is now living a retired life in the city of Eureka, is one of the oldest native-born citizens of Woodford county, Illinois. He was born in Olio township, April 5, 1837, and is the son of Caleb and Martha (Glazebrook) Davidson.

He grew to manhood on his father's farm and received his primary education in the subscription schools of the day. He then entered Eureka College, but completed his school life a student of Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. In 1859 he entered into the general mercantile business, putting up a store building on the square, one of the first stores in the place. He continued in trade until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company E, One Hundred and Eighth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, the first service of the regiment being in the chase after Morgan. It was then sent to Memphis, where it was organized for the campaign against Vicksburg, and participated in the entire siege. From Vicksburg it proceeded south and was in the engagement at Port Hudson, and also at Spanish Fort, the last regular engagement of the war. On entering the service Mr. Davidson was commissioned second lieutenant, but was later promoted captain, and as such was mustered out and honorably discharged. His company started out one hundred and fourteen strong, and on its return home there were left but twenty-three men of the original number. After the close of hostilities it did provost duty until mustered out in August, 1865.

Returning home, Captain Davidson resumed his mercantile business in which he continued until the fall of 1866, when he traded his stock of merchandise for farm lands in Woodford county, buying the old homestead of two hundred and ninety-three acres, where his parents died. To that farm he moved, and there continued to reside for many years, engaged in general farming and stock raising. He was one of the first to introduce short horns, Herefords and Galloway cattle. He always endeavored to have a high grade of stock and did much to improve the stock of the county. He continued to successfully operate his farm until 1890, when

he returned to the city that he might live a retired life.

On the 13th of October, 1860, Mr. Davidson was united in marriage with Jane C. Ewing, daughter of Albert G. Ewing, who located in Eureka in 1858, coming here from Ohio. Mr. Ewing was a member of the Christian church, and was very active in church work, and was also greatly interested in college work. He was for many years president of the board of trustees of Eureka College, a position that he was occupying at the time of his death. He was also chairman of the board of elders of the church, and his church and college work consumed much of his time, but he cheerfully attended to every duty called upon to perform. Mrs. Davidson is a cousin of the wife of Colonel Waterson, of Louisville, Kentucky, and comes of a well-known family in Kentucky and Ohio.

To Mr. and Mrs. Davidson one daughter was born, Anna E., who yet makes her home with her parents. She is a well known worker in the C. W. B. M. of the Christian church, and has for some years been its state president and its guiding spirit. It can be truthfully said that she has done more to inspire the women of the Christian church of the state to greater activity in the cause of the Master than any other person.

Mr. and Mrs. Davidson have for many years been members of the Christian church, and Mrs. Davidson is a deaconess in the church in Eureka. She is also one of the trustees of Eureka College, and is also a worker in the Ladies College Aid Society of the state. In the work of the C. W. B. M. she likewise takes an active interest. Fraternally Captain Davidson is a member of Dan Miles Post, G. A. R., of Eureka, and of William C. Hobbs Lodge No. 306, A. F. & A. M., of which he is the present master. He is also a member of Tazewell Chapter, No. 98, R. A. M., of Washington, Illinois. Politically he is a Democrat, and has taken an active interest in political affairs, serving his party at different times on township and county central committees. By his fellow citizens he has been honored with various township offices, and as township highway commissioner he did much for the construction of good roads. In 1893 he was appointed postmaster of Eureka, and served the four years of Cleveland's second administration, making an efficient and popular officer.

On returning to the city, Captain Davidson erected a beautiful home on Main street, which has been the family home for some years. The latch string of that house always hangs out and there the many friends of the family find a cordial welcome and genuine hospitality. A life-long resident of the county, the Captain is well known and is universally esteemed, and the wife and daughter, equally well known, have innumerable friends not only in Woodford county, but throughout the state.

SILAS D. PATTON.

The well-known and popular postmaster of El Paso, and a prominent business man of that place, was born in Warren county, Ohio, January 23, 1846, a son of George W. and Sarah (Church) Patton. The father was born in West Virginia, March 5, 1805, the mother in Massachusettts, August 25, 1805. Both grandfather Patton and Seth Church were natives of England and farmers by occupation. On his emigration to America the former settled in West Virginia, the latter in Massachusetts. In his native state George W. Patton grew to manhood, receiving a

common school education, and in early life he learned the art of making barrel hoops for coopers, which occupation he followed throughout his active business life. About 1827 he moved to Ohio, settling in a little village, then known as Yankeetown, but now called Mainville, Warren county, where he established himself in business and continued to work at his trade for a number of years. Later he lived in Blandchester, Clinton county, the same state, from where he moved to Walton, Cass county, Indiana, and when he retired from business went to live with his children. He died while on a visit to a sister-in-law in Davenport, Iowa, in the fall of 1875, at the age of seventy years. His wife survived him some years, dying at the home of her son, Henry C., in Fulton county, Indiana, in 1882, at the age of seventy-seven. To them were born thirteen children, five of whom died in early childhood. The others were as follows: Joseph, deceased, who made his home in Walton, Cass county, Indiana; Samuel, who was a member of Company B, Seventy-ninth Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil war, and died when with Sherman on the march to the sea; Ephraim, a retired citizen of Rochelle, Ogle county, Illinois; Matilda, who first married Galen Ballard, who was killed in the Civil war while a member of the Forty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and she is now the wife of David Olds, of Oregon City, Oregon; Seth, who as a member of Company B, Seventy-ninth Ohio Regiment, was killed at the battle of Lookout Mountain; Henry, now a farmer of Fulton county, Indiana, who was a member of the same company as his brother Seth, and was very seriously wounded in the service, a bursting shell destroying his hearing and crippling him for life; Silas D., our subject; Hannah Jane, who died at the age of eighteen years.

Silas D. Patton attended the public schools near his early home in Ohio until eighteen years of age, when he accompanied his parents on their removal to Indiana, locating in Walton, where he worked as a farm hand by the month for neighbors, receiving twenty dollars per month, or when he worked by the day one dollar. In Ohio he had previously worked for thirteen dollars per month. After three years spent in the employ of others Mr. Patton came to Woodford county, Illinois, in 1868, and rented a farm in Greene township, from David Graft, one of the early settlers of the county. Here he steadily prospered and at length was able to purchase eighty acres of land in El Paso township.

On the 10th of August, 1871, Mr. Patton married Miss Carrie Augenstein, a native of Tazewell county, Illinois, and a daughter of Ernest Augenstein, who was then living in El Paso township, Woodford county. She is the fourth in order of birth in a family of eight children, of whom four are still living, namely: Eli, who is living with our subject in El Paso; Mrs. Patton; Emma, wife of James Bailey, of Panola township, Woodford county; and Matilda, wife of Oliver M. Dye, of the same township, though they spend much time in travel.

After his marriage Mr. Patton resided upon his farm for about ten years, and then sold that place and purchased one hundred and forty acres of land near Hoopeston, Vermilion county. In 1881 he came to El Paso and embarked in business as a dealer in pianos, organs and sewing machines. This store he still conducts in addition to discharging the duties of his office, having been appointed postmaster by President McKinley,

June 28, 1898. He has proved a most efficient and popular official.

Mr. and Mrs. Patton have a family of three children: Charles O., a practicing dentist of El Paso, is a graduate of the high school of that place and the Chicago Dental College. He also took a special course in piano and violin playing at the Wesleyan College at Bloomington, and was graduated there in 1899. He married Nettie Tucker, and they have one child, Alpha Arleen. Matilda Flora, who is serving as deputy postmaster under her father, graduated from the El Paso high school in 1895, and in the fall of that year commenced teaching school, which profession she successfully continued up to the summer of 1899, and three months later entered upon her duties as deputy. Frank Ernest is also a clerk in the office. The parents are both earnest and consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which Mr. Patton is now serving as treasurer and trustee. Fraternally he is a charter member and treasurer of the Home Forum, and politically is a stanch Republican, having affiliated with that party since casting his first presidential vote for U. S. Grant. He has been a delegate to the county conventions of his party a number of times, and has served as tax collector of El Paso two years. Upright and honorable in all the relations of life, he has gained the confidence and respect of those with whom he has come in contact, and justly deserves the high regard in which he is uniformly held by his fellow citizens.

RILEY H. HALL.

Among the leading citizens and prosperous agriculturists of Panola township, Woodford county, is the subject of this review, who owns a fine farm of two hundred acres, eighty of which is located on section 10, and one hundred and twenty on section 15. That he is a thorough and skillful farmer as well as a man of good business ability is attested by the neat and thrifty appearance of his place, which is one of the most desirable farms of its size in the county. He was born in Peoria county, Illinois, April 21, 1860, but was only five years old when brought by his parents to Panola township, Woodford county.

Henry Hall, father of our subject, was born in England, June 11, 1824, and was employed in large woolen mills in that country from the age of ten years until twenty-six, working for the necessities of life. Finding himself no richer than when he began, he decided to come to America, the haven of the homeless and destitute. In 1850, at Liverpool, he took passage on the Great Western, and after thirty-two days on the water landed in New York, with hundreds of other emigrants. He had previously married Ann Hartley, daughter of Robert and Ann Hartley, natives of England, where both died. Mr. Hall left his wife in England until he could prepare a home for her. He first worked as a common laborer in New York city for a time, and then came west, locating in Peoria county, Illinois, where he engaged in farming upon rented land. In 1856 he sent for his wife and daughter, Caroline, and meeting them in New York, brought them to the home he had prepared in Peoria county. In 1865 he moved to Woodford county, and purchased eighty acres of land on section 10, Panola township. Industrious, enterprising and persevering, he met with success in his new home, and was able to add to his landed possessions until he had two hundred acres of valuable

farm land, it being the farm upon which our subject now resides. Throughout his active business life the father continued to successfully engage in general farming and stock raising. His daughter Caroline died in Peoria county, in 1858, and the wife and mother died in Woodford county ten years later. For his second wife he married Jane Healy, and after her death he wedded Mary A. Chadwick in 1883. By the last marriage he had one child, now deceased. He died January 2, 1896, and two days later was followed by his wife, both being buried in the same grave. They were members of the United Brethren church, and were among the useful and respected citizens of Panola township. Politically the father always supported the Republican party, but was never an office seeker.

Riley H. Hall grew to manhood on his present farm, and received his education in the public schools of Panola township. He has been a life-long student of the science of agriculture, to which the well-kept appearance of his place will testify. Besides this valuable property he owns two hundred and eighty acres of land in Burt township, Kossuth county, Iowa.

On the 8th of February, 1893, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hall and Miss Etta Klaman, daughter of John and Tena Klaman, of Panola township, where they now reside. They now have two interesting children: Edna Caroline, born December 16, 1896; and Ellen Annie, born July 16, 1899. Mr. Hall is one of the prominent and influential Republicans of Woodford county, and has taken quite an active part in local politics. He is at present serving his district in the capacity of school director, and as a public-spirited and progressive citizen takes a commendable interest in any enterprise calculated to advance the public welfare.

THOMAS CRIBBEN.

Among the representative farmers and influential citizens of Palestine township, Woodford county, Illinois, is the subject of this review, who owns a valuable and highly productive farm of four hundred and forty-seven acres on sections 15, 22 and 27. He was born in the village of Ballybane, parish of Annaugh, County Mayo, Ireland, on the 7th day of January, 1847, and is of pure Irish ancestry. His father, James Cribben, was born in the parish of Baken, County Mayo, and was reared to agricultural pursuits in his native county. There he was married, in March, 1845, to Miss Bridget Tarpy, who was born and reared not far from the home of her husband. Her parents, William and Honora (Raftery) Tarpy, were closely allied to some of the best families of Counties Mayo and Galway, her mother being a native of the city of Galway. Her paternal grandfather, Thomas Tarpy, had some of the best Irish blood flowing in his veins, and it has been transmitted to a number of American families of the same name who have figured quite prominently both in church and state. He married Margaret Murphy, whose ancestors were prominent and highly respected citizens of County Mayo for more than two centuries and were closely allied to the O'Connors of County Roscommon, of which the last monarch of Ireland was a kinsman. The celebrated Charles O'Connor, of New York City, who died a few years ago, also belonged to this family. Mrs. Cribben's

THOMAS CRIBBEN.

father died when she was only eight years of age, leaving eight children to the care of the widowed mother, who reared them carefully and conscientiously to honest and worthy lives.

After their marriage James Cribben and wife began housekeeping on a farm in County Mayo, where their only child, our subject, was born. In 1849 they set sail for America, embarking at Liverpool, but before they reached their destination the father died, after an illness of ten days duration, and his remains were buried at sea. The mother and son pursued their sad and melancholy journey, finally reaching New York city after six weeks spent upon the water, and at once proceeded to Savannah, Georgia, where some relatives of the father had settled. Suffering under a sense of loss and bereavement, Mrs. Cribben returned not long afterward to her native land where she remained for a period of two years, then leaving her son with his grandmother, she once more crossed the Atlantic, settling this time in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Five years later she married John Connell, a native of Black Rock, County Cork, Ireland, who had emigrated to the United States when a young man. Soon after their marriage they came to Illinois, and after spending a short time in La Salle county they located upon the present farm of our subject in Palestine township, Woodford county, in 1863. Their efforts in building up a home were crowned with success, and they became quite prosperous. Mr. Connell died at his homestead in Palestine township, April 17, 1879, at about the age of sixty-five years. He was an honest, hardworking, temperate man, and highly respected by his neighbors. In politics he was a Democrat, and in religious belief a Roman Catholic. Mrs. Bridget Connell, who resides on the home place with our subject, is an old lady of more than average intelligence and a devout member of the Roman Catholic church, in which she was reared from childhood. For the past fifteen years or more she has been an invalid, and is greatly loved by all for her Christian character and kindness of heart.

Thomas Cribben, our subject, was given a good education while with his grandmother in Ireland, under the instruction of a gentleman who had been his mother's teacher during her girlhood, and who lived to be over one hundred years of age. In 1859 he again came to the United States, and proceeded at once to the home of his mother and stepfather in Rutland, La Salle county, Illinois. He came with the family to Palestine township, Woodford county, in 1863, and aided in the accumulation of a fine property. He has devoted his life in a great measure to the care and comfort of his mother, to whom he is greatly attached, and in consequence has remained single.

Mr. Cribben is a faithful adherent of the doctrines of the Roman Catholic church, in which he was reared, and in politics has been a lifelong Democrat. He has held all the local offices and has repsesented Palestine township in the county board of supervisors continuously since 1884. He was a member of the finance and building committee in the erection of the court house at Eureka in 1897, the county seat having been changed from Metamora to Eureka, and he devoted a great deal of his time to the details of the building of that fine structure, which is now entirely paid for. During his service as a member of the board of supervisors he served as chairman of that body two years, at the expiration of which time his fellow members presented him with an elegant gold-

headed cane as a token of their appreciation. This is the only incident of that kind that has taken place during the existence of that official body. He served as chairman of the Democratic central committee about fifteen years. For the past twenty years Mr. Cribben has practically lived a retired life, his several farms being operated by tenants. He resides on the old homestead on section 22, where he has surrounded himself and mother with all the comforts of life.

DANIEL R. MEEK.

One of the honored pioneers of Woodford county is Daniel R. Meek, of Secor, who is now retired from active life and quietly enjoying the income which he accumulated in former years. He can relate many interesting reminiscences of the early days of the county, for he located here when the land was still in its primitive condition and wolves, deer and other wild game were plentiful.

Mr. Meek was born in Jennings county, Indiana, July 24, 1825, a son of Joseph and Eurania (Sullivan) Meek, and a grandson of Bazel Meek, who was a soldier of the Revolutionary war near the close of that struggle. The father was born June 7, 1897, in Pulaski county, Kentucky, where he continued to make his home until nineteen years of age, when he and his brother Daniel went to Indiana. They purchased and cleared a tract of land in Jennings county, making a home for their parents, who located there the following spring. After fourteen years spent in that state they sold out and came to Illinois, in the fall of 1830, and settled at what was called Walnut Grove, which was the present site of the city of Eureka. Woodford county at that time formed a part of Tazewell county. The parents followed in 1832 and located in the same neighborhood. Both died in Woodford county at an advanced age and were buried here. The father of our subject engaged in farming and followed stock raising quite extensively for those days. He continued to make his home on the tract of land which he first purchased until his death, which occurred just five days before the ninety-third anniversary of his birth. His wife, who was born in South Carolina, in 1800, died January 12, 1848. She was a daughter of Berry Sullivan, a planter of that state. Throughout life the father of our subject supported the Democratic party, and as a public-spirited man advocated all that tended to advance the interests of the community in which he lived. When Woodford county was first organized it was governed by three county commissioners, and he was one of the three elected, holding the office three terms. He also served as supervisor of Olio township one term. Religiously he was a member of the Church of Christ and deacon in the same for years. To himself and wife were born the following children: Eliza, wife of John Sadler, a farmer of Woodford county, both now deceaed; Emily, who died in childhood; Jackson; Daniel R.; Ezra P., a retired farmer of Fairbury, Livingston county; John, a farmer near Washington, Tazewell county, who died at the age of twenty-seven years; William M., who is represented on another page of this volume; Jesse, a retired farmer of Eureka; Sarah E., deceased wife of William Finley, of Woodford county; and a son who died in infancy unnamed.

Daniel R. Meek was only five years old when brought by his parents to what is now Woodford county, Illinois, but then forming a part of Tazewell county. He remained at

home until he attained his twenty-fourth year and then started out in life for himself, purchasing seventy-three acres and receiving from his father one hundred and twenty-seven acres of land in the same neighborhood, which he improved, erecting thereon good and substantial buildings and placed the land under cultivation. This farm, consisting of two hundred acres, he sold at the end of five years, and bought another, of eighty-seven acres, east of Eureka, which was partially improved. He made his home there for eighteen years, then purchased an eighty-acre farm on Walnut creek in Olio township, where he engaged in farming and stock raising about five years. He sold that place and the farm of eight-seven acres in 1879, and moved to the village of Secor, but shortly afterward bought two hundred and forty acres in Palestine township, which he operated for a few years. Renting his farm, he returned to Secor in 1890, and has since lived a retired life at his present home surrounded by all the comforts of life.

On old Panther creek, in Woodford county, May 24, 1849, Mr. Meek married Miss Elmira L. Watkins, a native of Illinois and a daughter of Warren C. and Nancy (Swarens) Watkins. Her father was born in Kentucky and about 1828 came to Illinois. After two years spent in Sangamon county he removed to what is now Olio townhip, Woodford county, though it then formed a part of McLean county. Here he improved a farm on which he spent the greater part of his life, but finally sold the place and lived retired with his youngest daughter, Mrs. Meek, at whose home he died at the age of eighty-two years. His wife survived him about four years and died at the same age. Mr. and Mrs. Meek have one daughter, Jennie M., who was educated at Eureka and is now the wife of E. H. Camp, a shoe merchant of Bement, Piatt county, Illinois. They have one child, Edith J., who was born on her grandfather's farm near Eureka, and is the wife of W. D. Stone, a carpenter of Bement.

In his political affiliations Mr. Meek is a Democrat, and he served as supervisor of Palestine township one year. He and his family are active and prominent members of the Church of Christ, of which he has been an elder for twenty-five years. He gave the land on which the church at Secor is located, it being situated directly east and adjoining his lawn, and in addition to this gift he contributed largely toward the erection of the church, which was built in the spring of 1898. As a citizen, friend and neighbor he is true to every duty and justly merits the esteem in which he is held.

C. M. STEPHENSON.

There are only two or three citizens of Greene township, Wodford county, who have longer resided within its borders than the gentleman whose name heads this article. He has made his home here since the age of fourteen years.

Mr. Stephenson was born in Greene county, Pennsylvania, April 2, 1838, a son of Henry and Mary (Myers) Stephenson. The Stephenson family is originally from Scotland. In that county the great-grandfather, Hugh Stephenson, made the acquaintance of a Scotchman, who was captain of a sailing vessel, and without the knowledge of his family came to the United States, where the remainder of his life was passed. His descendants have settled in various parts of the country.

Henry Stephenson, father of our subject, was also a native of Greene county, Pennsylvania, where he was married shortly after attaining his majority to Mary Myers, who was born in Monongalia county, Virginia, of German and English parentage. After his marriage he followed farming in Greene county, Pennsylvania, for a number of years, but in 1852 he left his home in the east and started for Illinois, accompanied by his family, taking with them all their worldly possessions. They boarded a steamboat at McConn's ferry on the Monongahela river, and sailed down that stream to Pittsburg, where they were transferred to a larger vessel, which carried them to St. Louis, whence they came up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Spring Bay, Woodford county. Two weeks later they settled in Greene township. Here they met with the trials and hardships incident to pioneer life, and by untiring industry and perseverance they developed a farm from the raw prairie and at length made for themselves a good and comfortable home where before was only a barren waste. The parents resided in Woodford county until their deaths. The mother died on the 10th of August, 1874, at the age of sixty-three years. She was a most estimable lady, greatly admired and dearly beloved by her many friends. To her no task was too great to perform to promote the happiness of those she cherished and loved. The father survived his wife several years, dying August 29, 1881, at the age of seventy-five years. He was a man of quiet and retiring disposition, yet was genial in his manner, and enjoyed the society of his friends. His home was noted for its hospitality, and all who entered its doors were made welcome. He did not care to become a rich man, but was content if the family were in favorable circumstnces. He was fond of hunting, was an expert marksman, and during the early days of the county many a wolf fell before his rifle. To himself and wife were born five children, four of whom are still living; James A., of Blockton, Taylor county, Iowa; Martha A., wife of Stephen Cummins, a farmer and stock raiser of Marysville, Missouri; C. M., our subject; and Orpha, who married F. M. Miller, but is now deceased.

Amid pioneer scenes C. M. Stephenson grew to manhood, the greater part of his education being acquired by home study. On the 8th of June, 1862, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary C. Livingston, a native of Tazewell county, Illinois, and the second in order of birth in a large family of children, whose parents were Lewis and Amy (Powell) Livingston, natives of Virginia. Her father, who was generally known as Luke Livingston, was born in 1811, and died October 4, 1874, while her mother, who was born in 1814, died September 3, 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson have four children, all born in Greene township, namely: Alice M. is now the wife of S. C. Baringer, a retired farmer of North Peoria, Illinois, who owns farms in Palestine and Roanoke townships, Woodford county, which he rents. They have two children, Ralph and Mary. Lewis H. married Helena Fagot, daughter of Peter Fagot, a farmer of Linn township, Woodford county, and is engaged in farming on his own place of one hundred and twenty acres in Cazenovia township. Ida I. is at home. Reamer J., a graduate of the Eureka Business College, married Lavinia Covain, of Roanoke, and is engaged in farming on his father's place.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Stephenson has followed agricultural pursuits, and for several years after his marriage operated

rented land, but is now the owner of a valuable tract of two hundred and thirty-five acres, improved with good buildings which makes it one of the best farms in Greene township. Eighty acres of this property is on section 20, eighty acres on section 17 and seventy-five acres on section 19. Standing upon the farm is a white elm tree, which was used as an old government witness tree, and the blaze made over sixty-six years ago is still distinct. It is probably the largest tree in the county, measuring twenty-three feet in circumference.

Mr. Stephenson has been called upon to fill many public offices of honor and trust. He is secretary of the Roanoke Fire Insurance Association, which was organized April 2, 1875, and has been of untold benefit to the farmers of the community. From the start he has been closely connected with the institution and was one of its first directors. At the first regular annual election held in September, 1875, he was appointed secretary and treasurer by the board of directors, and has held that responsible position ever since. The business of the association has steadily prospered, the officers and directors of the company being men of good business and executive ability. Mr. Stephenson served one term as school director, as township clerk seven years, collector one year, assessor five years, and township treasurer thirty years. His official duties have always been most conscientiously and faithfully discharged, giving entire satisfaction to his constituents. He holds membership in the Masonic lodge at El Paso. For a number of years he has acted as reporter for the bureau of agriculture of the state; is one of the directors of the El Paso District Fair; and is superintendent of the department of conchology and minerology, having made a specialty of these two branches of science for many years. At his home he has a large and fine classified collection of both shells and geological specimens.

CLINTON T. SWARTZ.

Among Woodford county's prosperous and representative farmers the subject of this sketch occupies an enviable position. Throughout his active business life he has been prominently identified with the agricultural interests of Panola township, and besides the valuable property he owns here, he now has considerable farming land in Iowa.

Joseph B. Swartz, the father of our subject, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, May 8, 1834, a son of George and Mary (Beery) Swartz, also natives of Ohio, whose ancestors on both sides were of German origin. At an early day both the Beery and Swartz families removed to Ohio and were among the pioneers of Fairfield county. Joseph B. Swartz had but limited educational advantages, yet managed to acquire considerable learning by reading and otherwise improving his opportunities. He was married, April 23, 1857, to Miss Barbara E. Keller, who was born in Licking county, Ohio, July 8, 1840, a daughter of Abraham and Barbara (Lussing) Keller, also of German descent. She lost her parents during infancy and was reared by an uncle, Joseph Keller. To Mr. and Mrs. Swartz were born ten children, two of whom died in early childhood. The others are Clinton T., our subject; Clara, wife of W. R. Shuman, of McLean county, Illinois; Melvin, of Peoria;

Ida B. married William Ostler, of El Paso; Lucy M., deceased; Elsie E., J. Vernon and Ralph B. When our subject was a year old the family moved to Putnam county, Ohio, and three years later to Hancock county, this state, locating near Findlay. In the spring of 1866 they came to Woodford county, Illinois, and took up their residence on section 34, Panola township, a mile and a half east of the present home of our subject. The farm the father placed under a high state of cultivation, and he continued its operation until 1889, when he moved to section 32, the same township. In December, 1893, he became a resident of El Paso, and there died sixteen months later, on the 5th of April, 1895. At that time he owned five hundred and twenty-five acres of productive and valuable land in El Paso township, Woodford county, and Gridley township, McLean county. He was a capable business man, enterprising and energetic, and was one of the most successful farmers of his community. He always affiliated with the Republican party, and was called upon to fill numerous local offices in his township. In religious belief he was a Baptist, while his wife holds membership in the Methodist church. She and the younger children are still living in El Paso.

Clinton T. Swartz, the subject of this review, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, February 9, 1858, and accompanied his parents on their removal to Putnam and Hancock counties, Ohio. In the sprirng of 1866 he came with them to Woodford county, Illinois, and upon the home farm in Panola township grew to manhood. At the age of twenty-one he commenced farming on his own account, and is now the owner of a well-improved and highly cultivated farm in Panola township. Since his father's death he has purchased considerable farming property in Iowa, which he still retains. He, too, is an active supporter of the Republican party; is usually a member of the county central committee; and at present is secretary of that organization. On the 16th of March, 1881, he was united in marriage with Miss Laura J. McOmber, daughter of Horace McOmber, of Panola, a sketch of whom appears on another page of this volume, and to them has been born one child, Nellie M.

HENRY DAMMAN.

Woodford county has many enterprising and successful citizens who started out in life with naught but an abundance of determination and indefatigable industry, and a strong and healthy constitution, and have succeeded through their own diligence, energy and economy. To this class belongs the subject of this sketch, who owns and operates a fine farm of two hundred and fifty-two acres of land on sections 27 and 28, Greene township, his home being on the latter section.

Mr. Damman was born in Spenge, near Bielefeld, Westphalia, Germany, November 18, 1844, a son of Casper and Mary Damman, also natives of that country, where the father spent his entire life as a farmer, dying there at the age of forty-five years. The mother came to America and lived with our subject for some time. She died in Benton county, Iowa, at the age of sixty-nine years. In the family were eleven children, but only four are now living. Our subject has three sisters: Anna, wife of John Noellsch, a farmer of Holt county, Missouri; Lena, wife of Herman Stiegelmeyer, a farmer of Benton county, Iowa; and Clara,

wife of U. S. Fry, a grain dealer of Van Horn, Iowa.

In 1853, at the age of nine years, Mr. Damman came to America with his mother, landing in New Orleans. From there they went to St. Louis, Missouri, and then to Menard county, Illinois, locating near Petersburg. Our subject began work by the month on farms in that neighborhood, and remained there until about twenty-three years of age, when he went to Iowa and purchased land on which he lived for eighteen months. Selling his property in that state, he returned to Illinois in 1869, and this time located in El Paso township, Woodford county, where he was engaged in farming on rented land for some time. He finally purchased a partially improved tract of eighty acres, and to its further development and cultivation devoted his attention until the spring of 1888, when he purchased his present fine farm in Greene township. Here he has erected a commodious and substantial residence as well as a large barn and other buldings, and has made many other improvements upon the place which make it one of the most desirable farms of its size in the township. Mr. Damman also owns a farm of eighty acres on section 9, Greene township, which is operated by his son, John. He is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising, making a specialty of short horn cattle, Poland China hogs and Norman horses.

On the 29th of December, 1869, at Peoria, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Damman and Miss Mary Stiegelmeyer, a daughter of Casper and Mary Stiegelmeyer, farming people of El Paso township, Woodford county. The father is now deceased, but the mother is still living and continues to reside on the home farm with her son, Henry. Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Daman, namely: Clara, born in El Paso township, December 8, 1870, married Henry Armstrong, a prominent farmer of Greene township, and died April 20, 1900, leaving one child, Ralph, then only two days old. She was buried at Secor. John, born April 17, 1872, married Ada B., daughter of Philip Evans, a farmer of Panola township, and is now engaged in farming on his father's place on section 9, Greene township. Anna, born in McLean county, December 10, 1873; William, born in El Paso township, Woodford county, October 30, 1875; George W., born September 20, 1877; and Henry A., born May 26, 1879, are all at home. Edwin F., born March 6, 1881, and Mary A., born February 16, 1883, are teaching district schools and reside at home. Frank, born July 21, 1887, is also at home. All have received good district school educations.

As a Republican Mr. Damman takes an active interest in local politics, and is now chairman of the township committee, but he has never sought nor desired public office, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests. His wife and two daughters are members of the Methodist Episcopal church. Starting out in life for himself a poor boy, his success is due to his industry, perseverance and good management, and he justly deserves the prosperity that has come to him. He is highly respected and esteemed by all who know him.

ALBERT C. JONES.

The subject of this sketch, one of the leading agriculturists of El Paso township, Woodford county, claims Illinois as his na-

tive state. He was born in Tremont, Tazewell county, October 31, 1853, and belongs to one of the prominent pioneer families. His father, Cushing Jones, of El Paso, was born in Scituate Plymouth county, Massachusetts, December 5, 1824, and is a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Nichols) Jones, also natives of Scituate, the former born in May, 1786, the latter in 1783. Her ancestors were originally from England, while the Jones family was of Welsh descent. The great-grandfather of our subject was Thomas Jones also a native of Massachusetts. In 1834 the grandfather, Charles Jones, came west with the Tremont colony, which founded the town of Tremont, Tazewell county, Illinois, and which was organized by Josiah L. James, John H. Harris and William Sampson, all of New York. The colony was composed of about thirty families. Mr. Jones, his wife and children went up the Hudson river to Albany by railroad, proceeded to Schenectady, by canal to Buffalo, the lake to Cleveland, through Ohio by the Wheeling canal, then down the Ohio river to Cairo, Illinois, and up the Mississippi and Illionis rivers *en route* for Pekin, but at the mouth of Apple creek, near Jacksonville, the boat struck on a sand bar, and the family was forced to remain there during the winter. In the spring of 1835, they settled at Tremont, building the first house at that place. There Charles Jones engaged in farming for some years. He died at Streator, Illinois, in 1874, and his wife passed away at Kappa, Woodford county, in 1862. In their family were six children, all of whom made their home in Illinois.

Cushing Jones, the youngest and only surviving memebr of the family, remained a resident of Tremont until 1853, when he moved to Woodford county, having entered a tract of government land on section 21, El Paso township, the year previous, when the Illinois Central Railroad was started, during the first sale of land in that section. There he built a small house, hauling the lumber from Pekin. It was the first house within three miles of the present site of El Paso. When he located here wolves and deer were as plentiful as domestic animals are to-day. His farm consisting of two hundred and forty acres of unbroken prairie land, he at once commenced [illegible] and he continued its operation until 1867, making his home in one house for thirty-two years. In 1867 he purchased property in El Paso, where he is now practically living a retired life though he still has a number of investments he looks after. He was married, April 6, 1848, to Charlotte Brooks, a daughter of Thomas Brooks, of Hanover, Massachusetts, who came to Illinois in 1837 and settled in Pekin. By this union were born nine children, namely: Thomas, who died in infancy; John, a resident of Saxony, Rice county, Kansas; Albert C., our subject; William C., who was killed by an accident in an elevator in El Paso; Fred, a resident of Hudson, McLean county, Illinois; Lizzie, wife of Joseph Wadsworth, of El Paso; Frank, a resident of the same place; Mary, at home; and Perry, deceased.

[illegible] Jones attended the public schools of Woodford county, and became familiar with all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist. He has always been engaged in farming in Illinois, with the exception of three years, from 1870 to 1870 spent in Sterling, Rice county, Kansas. In 1885 he located upon his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, which is pleasantly situated on section 4, El Paso township, a half mile

north of the village of El Paso. His principal products are oats and corn, of which he raises an excellent quality and in large quantities.

On the 30th of December, 1880, Mr. Jones married Miss Mary, daughter of B. S. Roper, of El Paso. They have an adopted daughter, Cora Beatrice. Mr. Jones is a supporter of the Prohibition party and an active and consistent member of the Baptist church of El Paso.

JOSEPH B. SCHWEIZER.

Woodford county has no more enterprising or progressive business man than Joseph B. Schweizer, of the firm of Schweizer & Huffman, well-known general merchants of Panola. He was born in that village, September 1, 1870, a son of John and Anna (Storm) Schweizer. The father was a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Aullen, April 20, 1838. Determined to try his fortune in America, he crossed the Atlantic in 1868 and proceeding at once to Illinois he located in the village of Panola, Woodford county. Having learned the shoemaker's trade in his native land, he opened a shop in Panola and engaged in that business until 1875, when he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, conducting a general store the first door south of the building now occupied by our subject. He continued in active business along that line until his death, which occurred June 21, 1898. He had the only store in Panola for about ten years, and for about the same length of time he was also engaged in the grain and coal business. For three terms he served as tax collector of Panola township and held several other political positions. By his ballot he supported the men and measures of the Democratic party. In his family were four children, namely: Barbara, wife of John Koch, of Benson, Illinois; Mary, wife of William McGraw, of Secor, Illinois; Joseph B., our subject; and Katie, wife of John Koch, Jr., of Panola.

Joseph B. Schweizer was reared in Panola and educated in its public schools. He was associated with his father in business until the latter's death, and thus gained a practical knowledge of commercial affairs. In 1898 when the estate was settled up he took charge of the store in partnership with A. W. Huffman, and under the firm name of Schweizer & Huffman, they have carried on the business ever since. They have a large and well selected stock, carrying a complete line of all goods usually found in a general store. By fair and honorable dealing they have built up an excellent trade and receive a liberal share of the public patronage.

On the 4th of May, 1890, Mr. Schweizer was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Welte, a daughter of Sebastian Welte, of Panola township, and by this union have been born four children, namely: Frank, Blanche, Walter and John. Politically Mr. Schweizer is identified with the Democratic party, and socially affiliates with the Court of Honor.

JOHN L. WARNER.

For over half a century this gentleman has made his home in Woodford county, and for many years was actively identified with its agricultural interest, but is now living a retired life in the village of Secor. He was born in Northampton county, Pennsylvania, April 29, 1822, and is a son of John R. and Sarah (Konkler) Warner, also natives of

the Keystone state. The father followed the boot and shoe maker's trade throughout his active business life. In 1837 he moved to Illinois, and first located in Clark county, but in 1949 came to Woodford county and purchased a farm in Palestine township, where he made his home until called from this life at the age of sixty-five years. His wife survived him some time, and died on the home farm at the age of eighty-one. Both were laid to rest in the cemetery of Palestine township. They were consistent and faithful members of the Methodist church, and he was a Democrat in politics. A public-spirited man, he took an active interest in all that tended to the improvement and development of his county. In the family were eleven children, of whom our subject is third in order of birth. Four of the number are still living.

John L. Warner came with his parents to Illinois in 1837, and obtained his early education in the common schools of Clark county. He remained at home with his parents until twenty years of age, working on the farm which his father had purchased. On attaining his majority he left the parental roof and for some years worked by the month in Illinois. Coming to Woodford county, in 1849, he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres on sections 9 and 10, Palestine township, and as it was then all wild land, he made many improvements on the place, erecting a good and substantial dwelling, barns and other buildings, finally bringing the entire farm under a high state of cultivation. At the end of about six years he sold that place and bought another farm of one hundred and twenty acres of land on section 15, the same township. Here he also made many improvements, but in 1856 sold the place and purchased a partially improved farm on sections 15 and 16, Palestine township. He erected additional buildings, and continued the further improvement and cultivation of that place until 1892, when he moved to the village of Secor and purchased for himself a home,where is is now enjoying a well-earned rest, surrounded by all the comforts of life.

On the 15th of September, 1850, Mr. Warner was united in marriage with Miss Syrena Potter, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of Ephraim and Elizabeth (Heddrick) Potter. Her father was born in North Carolina and at an early day moved to Indiana. He afterward came to Illinois, where both he and his wife died. By occupation he was a farmer. Mrs. Warner died in Palestine township, in April, 1892, at the age of fifty-seven years. She was a devoted wife and loving mother, and was highly respected and esteemed by all who know her. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Warner, namely: Lewis C., born in Woodford county, is an invalid residing with his father in Secor; Handley G., a grocer of Peoria, married Nellie Barraga, and they have one child, John; Elizabeth and Simon both died in infancy; Marion P, is a resident of Missouri; and Emily R. is at home with her father.

Mr. Warner was a member of the Mounted Rifles in the Mexican war, and was in active service in 1847 and 1848, during which time he had the misfortune to lose the sight of his right eye. Since attaining his majority he has affiliated with the Democratic party, but has never cared for the honors or emoluments of public office. He is an advocate of all measures that would advance the interests of the community in which he lives, and through his industry and perseverance has assisted in making the county what it is to-day, one of the richest agricul-

tural districts in the state. After a life of industry, he is now living retired at his pleasant home in Secor, and is numbered among its highly respected citizens, well worthy of representation in the biographical record of Woodford county.

JOSIAH FISHER.

This well known and highly respected citizen of Greene township, Woodford county, Illinois, whose home is on section 4, was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the 24th of September, 1826, and is a son of George and Nancy (Heastent) Fisher, lifelong residents of that state. The mother died when quite young, but the father lived to the advanced age of eighty years. He was a farmer and distiller and followed that occupation for many years.

Our subject, who was the only child of this worthy couple, pursued his studies in the common schools of his native county, and continued to make his home there until twenty-two years of age. On the 11th of May, 1849, he migrated to Illinois and first located in Peoria, where he worked at his trade of a plasterer for nine or ten years. Coming to Woodford county, in 1859, he has since resided upon his present farm on section 4, Greene township, and has successfully carried on general farming and stock raising. Out of what was once wild land he as developed a good farm, and has erected thereon large and substantial residence, barn and other buildings. His home farm consists of eighty acres, but elsewhere in the township he has two hundred acres of rich and arable land, all of which property has been acquired through his perseverance, industry and good management.

In 1847, Mr. Fisher was united in marriage with Miss Eliza M. Brown, also a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, who died at their home in Greene township, in 1896 beloved by all who knew her. Her remains were interred in the El Paso cemetery. By this union were born three children: Benjamin, a farmer of Greene township, married Kate Ettenberg, and they have four children, Jessie, Alta, Frederick and Frank; Thaddeus is single and resides at home; Sarah Ann is the wife of Levi Stumbaugh, a retired farmer and prominent citizen of El Paso.

Mr. Fisher has served as road commissioner for two terms but has never sought public office. He is, however, enterprising and public-spirited and advocates all measures tending to advance and improve the district in which he resides. He has watched with interest the wonderful changes made in the country during the past forty years, and has always borne his part of the work of progress. He is therefore numbered among the most valuable and useful men as well as one of the most highly esteemed citizens of his adopted county.

GEORGE JOHNSON.

The subject of this review has made farming his chief occupation through life thus far, and has become one of the most thorough and practical agriculturalists of Panola township, Woodford county, Illinois. He was born in Tazewell county, this state, October 21, 1860, but since the age of eight years has made his home in Woodford county.

His father, Andrew Johnson, was born

in Hanover, Germany, December 10, 1827, and being left an orphan at the age of three years, he was forced to earn his own livelihood early in life. He was reared to farm labor, and as he had to support himself as son as old enough he received but a very limited education. In 1853 he took passage on a sailing vessel bound from Bremen to the United States, and after a voyage of seven weeks landed on American soil. He first located in Tazewell county, Illinois, and as a stranger in a strange land he accepted any employment he could find, working as a farm hand and also on the railroad for two years. In 1868 he came to Panola township, Woodford county, and took up his residence on the farm still occupied by the family. When he located here it was all wild land, but under his able management acre after acre was placed under the plow, and in time the whole tract was transformed into a valuable and well improved farm, It comprises three hundred acres, and is one of the most desirable farms of the locality. Mr. Johnson died December 4, 1896. He was an earnest member of the German Lutheran church, was upright and honorable in all his dealings, and his word was considered as good as his bond. In politics he was a Democrat, and for many years he efficiently served as school director, making it a point to maintain good schools. On the 14th of April, 1859, he wedded Miss Mary Gibson, a native of Jo Daviess county, Illinois, who departed this life in 1890. To them were born nine children, two of whom died in infancy. The others are Melinda, wife of Oscar Cotton, of El Paso; George, our subject; Isaac, a resident of Woodford county; Sarah, widow of James Coverly; Tina, who died July 19, 1888; Charles and Arthur.

On the home farm George Johnson grew to manhood, early becoming familiar with all the duties which fall to the lot of the agriculturist, and acquiring his literary education in the public schools of the neighborhood. He owns and operates a farm of one hundred and four acres of as fine land as is to be seen within the limits of Panola township, and is meeting with well deserved success in his chosen calling. He is one of Woodford county's most progressive and public-spirited men, and is widely and favorably known. On the 29th of March, 1892, Mr. Johnson was united in marriage with Miss Leona, daughter of Charles McHugh, of Greene township, Woodford county, and to them have been born three children, as follows: Annie, Beatrice and Cecil.

MICHAEL FITZGERALD, Sr.

Michael Fitzgerald, Sr., is a typical representative of that steady class of upright, honorable men who make up the best portion of an agricultural community. They usually become well-to-do citizens and take an active part in the upbuilding and development of their township and county.

Our subject was born in Ballingary, county Tipperary, Ireland, April 16, 1830, and is a son of William and Margaret (Hackett) Fitzgerald, also natives of that county, where the father died in early life. The mother afterward came to America, where she spent her last years, departing this life at El Paso, Illinois. In her family were eight children.

In his native land Michael Fitzgerald passed his boyhood and youth, and was there educated in the national schools. In 1849 he crossed the broad Atlantic to America,

and after traveling considerably in various parts of the country for about six years, he came to El Paso, Illinois, in 1856. With the view of making Woodford county his home he purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land from the Illinois Central Railroad Company, which at that time was wild, unbroken prairie, and to its improvement and cultivation he at once turned his attention. In his labors he met with excellent success, and now has one of the finest farms in his section of the county.

Mr. Fitzgerald was married, January 31, 1858, to Miss Elizabeth Smith, of Bloomington, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Gleason) Smith, who died in county Tipperary, Ireland, of which place they were born natives. To our subject and his wife were born eight children, namely: William, a resident of El Paso; Daniel, of Bloomington; Thomas, at home; Timothy, of St. Louis; Margaret, wife of Owen Kippenbrock, of Moburn, Missouri; Patrick, deceased; Michael and Elizabeth, both at home. Politically Mr. Fitzgerald is a stanch supporter of the Democratic party and its principles, and he is justly regarded as one of the most useful and honored citizens of El Paso township.

WESLEY W. DUNMIRE.

This well known agriculturist, residing on section 25, El Paso township, Woodford county, Illinois, was born in Cambria county, Pennsylvania, December 7, 1857, and is a son of Daniel and Maria (Raubaugh) Dunmire, the former also a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1822. The mother was born in Germany, in 1832, but was only two years old when brought to the United States. They were married in Cambria county, Pennsylvania, the father being owner of one of the large mills of that locality for several years. In connection with its operation he worked at the carpenter's trade, farming but little in that state. In 1866 he came to Woodford county, Illinois, and purchased three hundred and twenty acres of land on sections 25 and 36, El Paso township, which at that time was only partially improved. He located on section 25, and to the further development and cultivation of his land he at once turned his attention. He laid many rods of tiling, erected good buildings and otherwise improved his place. Always a very hard-working man, he carried on farming quite extensively and met with marked success in his undertakings. In his declining years he is now enjoying a well-earned rest at his pleasant home in Normal, Illinois. He was formerly a Republican in politics, but now supports the Prohibition party, and while living in the county he was officially connected with the school interests of Woodford county. Both he and his wife are active workers in the Evangelical church, and are held in the highest respect by all who know them.

To them were born nine children, three of whom are deceased. Two died in infancy, and Mary, wife of Isaac Pringle, has also pasesd away. Those living are Joseph W., a farmer of Palestine township, Woodford county; Lucy, wife of Richard Boyd, a farmer of Mt. Vernon, Illinois; Wesley W., our subject; Hattie, wife of C. D. Pierce, a retired citizen of Normal; Frank, who operates a part of his father's farm in El Paso township; and Isora, wife of Newton Saylor, a retired citizen of Normal.

The subject of this sketch is indebted to district schools of El Paso township for his educational advantages. He has always

lived on the old homestead, assisting in placing the land under cultivation and otherwise improving it. Since reaching manhood he has operated a part of the farm on his own account, renting it from his father, and is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising.

In 1887 Mr. Dunmire married Miss Hattie Betz, who was born in Greene township, Woodford county, in uly, 1863, a daughter of Jacob and Susanna Betz. The father died in 1895, but the mother is still living, and now makes her home in El Paso. Mrs. Dunmire has three sisters, namely: Mary, wife of W. A. Renn, a merchant and real estate dealer of Wellington, Kansas; Della, wife of Alonzo Stretch, of El Paso, both of whom are evangelists, she being a preacher, her husband a musician; and Dora, wife of O. S. Kring, of El Paso township. Our subject and his wife have one son, Ralph R., now twelve years of age, who is being educated in the district schools.

Politically Mr. Dunmire is a Republican, and he has served as school director for several years. Both he and his wife hold membership in the Methodist Episcopal church, are teachers in the Sunday school, and take an active part in all church work. He is also serving as one of the trustees and directors of the church. They are widely and favorably known, and have many friends in the community where they have so long made their home.

W. C. HOGELUCHT.

Among the more prominent and enterprising farmers of Greene township, Woodford county, who are of alien birth, is the gentleman whose name heads this sketch. Like others of his countrymen, he has brought to the new world the habits of economy and frugality which are inherent characteristics of his native land, and the exercise of which, accompanied by industry and good management, have secured for him a comfortable competence. He now owns and occupies a fine farm of two hundred and eighty-five acres of land on section 18, Greene township.

Mr. Hogelucht was born in Friesland, Germany, in 1830, son of Carl W. and Tatye (Redenius) Hogelucht, also natives of that country, where the mother died, after which the father married again. He came to America and lived to the age of sixty-five years. Our subject received a good practical education in the common schools and a gymnasium in Germany, and during his youth assisted his father in the work of the home farm. In 1854 he came to the United States on a sailing vessel, and after nine weeks spent upon the water landed in New Orleans, whence he came by boat up the Mississippi and Illinois rivers to Peoria. After a short stay in that city he went to Tazewell county, Illinois, and rented a farm near Washington, which he operated one year.

Mr. Hogelucht was then joined by his father, who had just come to America ,and together they bought an unimproved farm in Greene township, Woodford county, but after two years our subject sold his interest in the place and purchased one hundred and twenty-five acres of his present farm on section 18, to which he has since added until he now has two hundred and eighty-five acres. When he located thereon it was all wild land, but by persistent and untiring effort he has coverted it into one of the most highly cultivated tracts in the township. The buildings and other improvements on the place are in

first class condition, and stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise.

At Metamora, Mr. Hogelucht married Mrs. Gertie (Johnson) Redenius, widow of Harm Redenius, by whom she had four children, namely: Helen first married Jacob Monk, a farmer by whom she had four children, Harm, Wilk, Gertie and Getke, and for her second husband married William Webber, by whom she has had three children, John, Fritz and Johanna. Mrs. Webber died about eight years ago and was buried in Greene township cemetery. Johanna is the wife of Albert Sathoff, a farmer of Kansas, and they have a large family of children. John is a farmer of Wisconsin. Harm is a prominent farmer and stock raiser of Greene township, where he owns a farm of one hundred and twenty-seven acres on section 7. He married Wilhelmina Flor, and they have nine children. Mrs. Hogelucht, who was a devoted wife and loving mother, died November 3, 1894, and was buried in the Lutheran church yard cemetery in Greene township. She was a faithful member of that church and took an active interest in its work.

Mr. Hogelucht has never cared for political preferment, though as a public-spirited and progressive citizen, he takes a deep interest in all that tends to improve his township and county and has done all in his power to promote the general welfare of his community. He is widely and favorably known and his friends are many throughout Woodford county.

A. B. TURNER.

This gentleman, who is recognized as one of the leading farmers of El Paso township, Woodford county, and one of the first to give his support to any enterprise for the advancement of the people of his community, was bron in Eaton, Ohio, November 19, 1840, a son of John and Rebecca (Berry) Turner. The father, who was also a farmer by occupation, was born in Rockingham county, Virginia, of Scotch ancestry, and died in 1843, at about the age of thirty-three years. The mother was born in 1815, in Fairfield county, Ohio, and belongs to one of the oldest families of that state. Her ancestors were early residents of Pennsylvania, and later of Virginia, from which state they moved to Ohio in 1800, making the trip down the river in a flat boat. After the death of Mr. Turner she returned to Fairfield county, where she still resides at the ripe old age of eighty-five years. By her first marriage she had five cildren, Jacob, E. C., Joseph, A. B., and Peter, all of whom served in the army during the Civil war except Jacob. E. C. was wounded at Franklin and is now deceased; Joseph and Jacob, now living in Bremen, Fairfield county, Ohio; A. B., our subject, is next in order of birth; and Peter, who resides in Lancaster, Ohio. Joseph, Peter and A. B. all served in Company A, Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry. For her second husband the mother married John Shoemaker, by whom she has nine children, namely: Mary, wife of John Syfert, who was also a member of Company A, Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and is now a resident of Bremen, Fairfield county; Martha, wife of Aaron Lutz, a member of the same regiment, and a resident of Carroll, Ohio; Eli, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, a resident of Seneca county, Ohio; John W., superintendent of the infirmary in Van Wert county, that state; William, a farmer of Fairfield county; Sophia, now Mrs. O'Hare, of Fairfield county, Ohio; Anna, wife of

Frank Syfert, of Sumner county, Kansas; Clare, wife of Daniel Rider, of Van Wert county, Ohio; and Sarah, who died at the age of six years.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the common schools of Fairfield county, Ohio, where he grew to manhood, and while living with an uncle learned the carpenter's trade. In response to the President's call for more troops, he enlisted, August 10, 1861, in Company A, Seventeenth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was the first regiment to cross the river into Kentucky from Cincinnati. It did valuable service, participating in twenty-three important engagements, including the battles of Wild Cat, Mill Springs, Corinth, Perryville, Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Chickamauga, Brown's Ferry, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Kenesaw Mountain, Chattahoucha River, near Atlanta, Jonesboro, Waynesboro, Black River, Savannah, Fayetteville, Bentonville, Goldsboro, Smithfield and Raleigh. At Missionary Ridge Mr. Turner re-enlisted to serve until the close of the war, and was honorably discharged at Columbus, Ohio, July 22, 1865. He was always found at his post of duty, valiantly defending the old flag and the cause it represented, and never lost a day during his entire service of almost four years. Mr. Turner enlisted as a private and at the time of his discharge was first sergeant of his company.

Returning to his home Mr. Turner engaged in farming in Fairfield county, Ohio, until 1870, when he came to Illinois and took up his residence in Panola township, Woodford county, but in 1883 purchased his present farm on section 33, El Paso township, to the further improvement and cultivation of which he has since devoted his time and attention with most gratifying results. His success in life is due to his own well-directed and energetic efforts, and his prosperity is certainly well merited.

Mr. Turner was married, August 30, 1866, to Miss Nancy A. Eversole, of Fairfield county, Ohio, and they have become the parents of nine children: David, born June 20, 1867, died March 12, 1868. The others are George T., born January 3, 1869, a resident of El Paso, township; Alvin Perry, born January 5, 1871, married Anna Lambert, of Greene township, and they have one child, Atha L.; Martha E., born December 27, 1872; Cora Alice, born March 31, 1875; Ira Benton, born July 14, 1877; Carrie R., born July 8, 1880; Frank E., born May 1, 1883; and Anna M., born March 22, 1886.

In his political views Mr. Turner is a Prohibitionist, and he is an honored member of the Jall Rogers Post, G. A. R., of El Paso. He is a pleasant, genial gentleman, and through his hospitality has gathered round him many warm friends who appeciate his sterling worth and many excellencies of character.

Mrs. Turner is a daughter of David and Elizabeth (Miller) Eversole, both natives of Rockingham county, Virginia, and both of old Virginian families. They were married in their native state and settled in Ohio at a very early date. He was one of the pioneer stock dealers of Ohio, in those days called "drovers." He was also engaged in farming. They reared a family of ten children, viz.: Maria married Joseph Graham, deceased, of Colfax, Fairfield county, Ohio; Henry married Sarah Work, who died in Arcola, Illinois, in 1899. He was one of the pioneers of that part of the state; Jacob married Catharine Swartz and resides in Shelby county, Illinois; Elizabeth died at the age of eighteen; David lives in Van Wert county, Ohio; Ly-

dia married Newton Peters, of Fairfield county, Ohio; Emanuel also served in the Seventeenth Ohio Regiment. He now ocsides in Iroquois county, Illinois. He married Elizabeth Artz. John married Abbie Brown, of Fairfield county, Ohio; Nancy, wife of our subject; and Martha married Jacob Tidd, of Columbus, Ohio. The parents died in Fairfield county, Ihio, in 1881, the father in January, and the mother in October.

JEREMIAH RAY.

The agricultural interests of Woodford county find a worthy representative in this gentleman, who is now operating a farm of two hundred and forty acres of land on section 14, Greene township. He is a native of the county, his birth occurring at Metamora, July 6, 1839. During his boyhod and youth he attended the common schools and also a select school at Metamora, and assisted his father on the farm.

The parents of our subject were George and Jane (Banta) Ray, honored pioneers of Woodford county. His paternal grandfather, George Ray, Sr., was born and reared in Pennsylvania, and after reaching manhood went to Ohio, where the remainder of his life was passed as a farmer. He died when well advanced in years. The Ray family came originally from Prussia, and with one of William Penn's colony crossed the Atlantic in the latter part of the seventeenth century and settled in Pennsylvania. The Bantas came to this country with a Dutch colony that settled in the city of New York about 1660. Our subject's maternal grandfather, Jacob Banta, was born in New Jersey, and married Mary Brewer. His father and one or two brothers were soldiers of the Continental army during the Revolutionary war.

George Ray, Jr., father of our subject, was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, March 11, 1808, and remained on the home place until about 1834, when he traveled west on horseback, being at that time in ill-health. Finally, in 1836, he located on the present site of Metamora, Woodford county, Illinois, buying out an earlier settler who had a little land broken just south of the village, and there he made a home for himself and family. He made all the improvements upon the place, in the way of buildings, erecting a good residence and large barn, and at length placed the tract of one hundred and forty acres under high cultivation. He bought other property at different places, and became quite a large land owner for those days. In connection with general farming he engaged in cattle raising quite extensively, keeping a large herd on the prairie, from which he shipped to the Chicago market. For several terms he served as justice of the peace in Greene township, and was twice elected sheriff of the county, first on the Democratic ticket and second on an independent ticket. He was a Universalist in religious faith and a generous giver to churches of all denominations in the township where he lived. He was a broad and liberal-minded man, who advocated all measures that tended to the advancement and development of the community, and was one of Woodford county's most useful and valued citizens. He died at Metamora, in March, 1897, lacking only a few days of being eighty-nine years of age. The mother of our subject died on the home farm in 1852, leaving nine children, six of whom are still living, Jeremiah being the oldest.

Jeremiah Ray remained with his parents until twenty-two years of age, when he entered the service of his country as one of the boys in blue during the Civil war. He enlisted in May, 1861, in Company G. Seventeenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which was organized at Metamora and Eureka, and was made sergeant of his company. The principal engagements in which he took part were the battles of Fort Donelson and Shiloh, the entire siege of Vicksburg, and a number of skirmishes. After three years of faithful and arduous service he was mustered out at Springfield, Illinois, June, 4, 1864.

After being discharged Mr. Ray returned to the home farm in Woodford county, and for a couple of years operated a farm belonging to his father in Roanoke township. In 1868 he married Harriet T. Swallow, a daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Wilson) Swallow. Her father, who was a native of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, and a furniture manufacturer by occupation, came to Illinois in 1855 and settled in Woodford county, where he passed several years, but about twenty-five years ago moved to Ford county, where his death occurred. His widow is still living in that county at the age of eighty years. Mr. and Mrs. Ray have four children, namely: Ernest L., a real estate dealer of Chalmers, White county, Indiana, married Belle Ray, of Rossville, Illinois, and they have one child, Harry; Angie is at home with her parents; George J., a graduate of the State University, is now a civil engineer in the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad and resides at Carbondale; and Edna F. has for the past three years successfully taught the Willow Tree school in Greene township. All were born in Metamora.

After his marriage Mr. Ray located on a farm one mile north of Metamora, where he engaged in general farming and stock raising for eleven years. In 1879, accompanied by his wife and four children, he moved to Kansas, but after farming there for three years returned to Illinois. For four years he lived in the vicinity of Eureka, then spent some time in Panola township, Woodford county, and for the past eleven years has made his home in Greene township. He owns a small farm, which he rents, while he leases and operates a tract of two hundred and forty acres. Since the war Mr. Ray has been identified with the Republican party, but has never cared for political favors. He and his family are members of the Panola Baptist church, of which he has been a trustee for a number of years. He can relate many interesting incidents connected with his early life in Woodford county, when the few settlers were widely scattered and the land was in its primitive condition, and wolves and deer were numerous as well as smaller game. In the work of development and progress he and his family have borne an active part, and are well worthy of representation among the honored pioneers and highly respected citizens of the county.

GUSTAVUS BUTTLER, M. D.

This well-known physician and surgeon of Panola, Illinois, was born in the village of Oschatz, Saxony, November 9, 1830, and belongs to a very old and distinguished family of Germany. The Buttlers (or Van Buttlers) trace their ancestry back to Gultherus, the youngest brother of Duke Richard Van Brionne, who was a descendant from one

of the Norman dukes and was the first butler of Henry I. of England. He was born in 1068 and died in 1135. He married Medidda, daughter of King Antiochus, from Curien, whom he brought home when he returned from the crusade. His son, Achilles Buttler, emigrated from England to Germany in 1164 with a colony of four hundred relatives and friends, being adherents of Archbishop Thomas of Canterbury. They settled in Fulda province, in the central part of Germany. Since that time the family have largely lived in Germany, and have most been distinguished soldiers of various rank in the German army. The first members of the family of which we have any record is twenty-six generations remote from Dr. Buttler, but his descent can be accurately traced. A genealogical record has been prepared by Rudolph Buttler, of Fritzler, Germany.

Our subject's grandfather, John Arden August Buttler, was a prominent general, and was a member of the king's cabinet. Three of his sons were soldiers, including the Doctor's father, Captain Henry Buttler, who followed a military career throughout life, and died while in active service of typhoid fever at Oschatz. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Ninon Gilbert, was a native of France.

Dr. Buttler was the seventh child in order of birth in a family of eight children. He obtained his literary education at a gymnasium in Dresden, and then took up the study of medicine at Leipsic, Germany, where he was graduated in 1859. The following year he came to this country, and first located in Newark, Licking county, Ohio, where he followed the practice of his profession for some time. Subsequently he spent a short time in Columbus, that state, and in 1868 came to Woodford county, Illinois. For a few months he had an office in El Paso, but later in the same year came to Panola, where he has since successfully engaged in practice, his patronage being quite extensive.

In 1866 Dr. Buttler married Miss Natalie Arand, also a native of Germany, and to them were born two children, namely: Ida, deceased wife of Newton Sheen, a farmer of Woodford county; and Robert, who married Louisa Kretsmor, of West Virginia, and lives in Panola. Politically the Doctor is a stanch Democrat, and is now serving his third term as township clerk. In religious belief he is a Catholic. He is a courteous, genial gentleman who wins many friends, and has the happy faculty of being able to retain them.

HENRY DIERKING.

No foreign element has become a more important part in our American citizenship than that furnished by Germany. The emigrants from that land have brought with them to the new world the stability, enterprise and perseverance characteristic of their people and have fused these qualities with the progressiveness and indomitable spirit of the west. Mr. Dierking, the well-known banker of Secor, is a worthy representative of this class.

He was born on the 12th of April, 1830, in the province of Hanover, Germany,, of which his parents, Henry and Wilhelmina (Stunkel) Dierking, were also natives. In 1844 they brought their family to the United States and settled in Lafayette county, Missouri, where the father followed his chosen occupation, that of farming, for a number of

years. There he was killed during the war of the Rebellion at the age of about sixty years. His wife survived him and after his death came to Woodford county, Illinois, to make her home with our subject in Secor, where she died at the age of eighty-one years. In their family were seven children, five sons and two daughters, of whom Henry is the oldest.

Our subject received his education in the common schools of his native land, and assisted his father in the labors of the farm. He was fourteen years of age when he accompanied the family on their removal to the United States, and at their home in Missouri they grew to manhood. In 1850 he crossed the plains to California, traveling on foot with a party, and reaching their destination after twenty weeks spent upon the road. Mr. Dierking remained in that state two years, prospecting and mining, and then returned to his old home in La Fayette county, Missouri, where he purchased a farm, which he tilled until the civil war broke out. In 1861 he entered the service as cook for the home guards and remained with them several months, after which he resumed farming in La Fayette county. Leaving home in 1862, he spent a couple of years traveling over the country, and in 1865 located at Secor, Woodford county, Illinois, where he has since made his home. He was first engaged in general merchandising for a number of years and next embarked in the grain business, buying an elevator, which he operated until the fall of 1899, when he sold the business to Mr. Felter and turned his attention to the banking business, becoming proprietor of what is known as the Secor Bank. He erected the brick building in which the bank is now located and is doing a successful general banking business.

On the 10th of December, 1852, in La Fayette county, Missouri, Mr. Dierking was united in marriage with Miss Mary Wallner, a native of Germany, who came to the United States in 1852, her parents being dead. She died in Secor March 19, 1900, at the age of sixty-seven years and one month, and was laid to rest in the cemetery there. She was a faithful member of the German Lutheran church, a devoted mother and a loving wife and helpmeet, who took a special interest in the work of the church and endeared herself to all who knew her. Hers was a well-spent and useful life and she left behind many friends to mourn her loss. To Mr. and Mrs. Dierking were born nine children, three sons and six daughters, of whom Carl died at the age of six years, Martin at the age of five and one in infancy unnamed. Kathleen, born in Missouri, is the wife of Hiram Flessner, a real estate dealer of Peoria, Illinois, and they have three children, Emma, Edward and Lone. Edward, a merchant of Secor, married Mrs. Etta Smith, and they have five children, Clara, Carl, Sophia, Bertha and Lora. Mary is the wife of C. C. Herman, a prominent druggist of Secor, and they have two children, Irwin and Edna. Anna and Matilda are both at home and the latter assists as bookkeeper in the bank.

Mr. Dierking has held the office of trustee of the village board for a number of years and has been president of the village two or three terms. He is a member of the German Lutheran church, which his family all attend, and is one of the most highly respected citizens of his adopted town. When he came to the county there were but few improved farms, and he has seen nearly all the wild land transformed into a highly cultivated district. He is one of the men

who, by his industry and perseverance, has helped to make the county what it is today, and as a useful and prominent citizen he is well worthy of representation in this volume.

HENRY SWATSLEY.

Prominent among the representative citizens and respected and influential men of Greene township, Woodford county, is found the subject of this biographical notice, who resides on section 15, where he has a well-improved and highly cultivated farm of eighty acres. For many years he was engaged in agricultural pursuits, but is now living a retired life.

A native of West Virginia, Mr. Swatsley was born in Augusta county May 7, 1836, and is a son of John and Catherine (Haybarger) Swatsley, natives of the same state. The father spent the greater part of his life in Augusta county, where his birth occurred in 1809, and throughout his active business career followed farming and stock raising. In the fall of 1856 he came to Illinois and took up his residence near Metamora in Metamora township, where he purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres. He made many improvements upon the place and continued to reside there until well advanced in years, when he went to live with his sons in Greene township, where he died at the age of seventy-one years. He met with success in his farming operations and accumulated quite a property. Politically he was a Democrat and religiously was a faithful and consistent member of the Presbyterian church. His wife had died at the age of sixty-three years while they were living in Metamora township. They were the parents of four children, who in order of birth were as follows: John has for some years engaged in farming in Nebraska and has become a leader in public life, having represented his district in the state legislature. He is married and has a family. Henry, our subject, is the next of the family. Sarah married Jacob Tool, a farmer and stock raiser of Iowa, and they died leaving three children: James; Mrs. Sylvina Whistler, of Texas; and Charles. George, a resident of Gibson City, Illinois, was engaged in milling for some years, but is now engaged in farming, which he followed earlier in life. He married Lavina Airley and they have eight children.

Henry Swatsley obtained his early education in the subscription schools of his birthplace. He was about seventeen years of age when he came wth the family to Illinois and remained on the home farm in Metamora township until twenty-five, when he started out in life for himself. He purchased a farm in that township, but after operating it for a few years he sold the place and bought his present farm of eighty acres on section 15, Greene township, upon which he has since erected a large and pleasant residence good barns and other outbuildings. He successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising for several years, but has now laid aside business cares to enjoy a well-earned rest.

On the 13th of March, 1862, in Metamora, Mr. Swatsley led to the marriage altar Miss Margaret Nichols, who died December 17, 1884, and was laid to rest in the Clayton church yard in Greene township. She was a consistent member of the Baptist

church and a most estimable lady. She left seven children, all born in Woodford county, namely: James, a resident of El Paso, married Flora Kippenbrock, and they have one child, Minnie; Mary is the wife of C. H. Tool, a machinist of Benson, Illinois, and they have one son, Lawrence; Annie is the wife of Conrad Otto, a farmer of Greene township, and they have three children, Charles Edna and Ina; Flora is the wife of Charles Jeter, a farmer on section 15, Greene township; Alice is the wife of Oscar Gish, a farmer of Green township, and they have three children, Ethel, Bessie and Blanche Emma; Fannie is at home with her father; and John married Eliza Nicholson and also lives on the home place.

Since attaining his majority Mr. Swatsley has always affiliated with the Democratic party, and he is now efficiently serving as justice of the peace in Greene township, which office he has filled for four years. He has also been school director for many years and has done much to promote the educational interests and secure a better school system for his district. It is only necessary to mention his long and continuous public service to show the esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens. In religious belief he is a Baptist.

EDWIN HODGSON.

This well-known and prominent importer and dealer in horses at El Paso is a native of Illinois, born in Tazewell county, January 1, 1842, and is a son of William and Phebe (Bennett) Hodgson, both natives of Ohio and early settlers of Tazewell county, Illinois. The Hodgson family are of English descent, those coming from England being members of the Society of Friends. Our subject's father was born near Wilmington, Ohio, in 1815, and was about sixteen years of age when he came to Illinois wth his father, Amos Hodgson, who settled in Tazewell county, and died at the home of his son William at about the age of ninety years. At an early day the latter took up government land and became quite an extensive land owner. He continued to successfully engage in farming until seventy-two years of age, when he moved to Hopedale, Tazewell county, and has since lived a retired life. Politically he is identified with the Republican party. His wife is now deceased.

To this worthy couple were born eight native of Tazewell county, and a daughter The others are: Mary Ann, wife of Daniel Hill, of El Paso; Albert, a resident of Kansas; Edwin, our subject; Eliza, a resident of Pekin, Illinois; Newton, of Des Moines, Iowa; Emeline, wife of R. M. Worley, of Pekin; and Elva, deceased wife of J. W. Craft.

Edwin Hodgson received his education in an old log school-house on his father's farm in Brushhill township, within eighty rods of the house. There he pursued his studies during the winter season until eighteen years of age, and assisted in the farm work through the summer months. For the following three years he operated a rented farm belonging to his father. In November, 1863, when only twenty-one years of age, Mr. Hodgson married Sarah E. Worley, then sixteen. She, too, was a native of Tazewell county, and a daughter of Simeon and Mary E. Worley, who were

born in Ohio, and at an early day moved to Tazewell county, this state. Mrs. Worley is now living in El Paso.

Soon after his marriage Mr. Hodgson came to Woodford county and located in Panola township, where he bought eighty acres of land, and his father gave him forty acres, making one hundred and twenty acres of well improved land. He followed farming on this place until coming to El Paso in 1881, since which time he has engaged exclusively in importing and dealing in horses. In 1875 he bought his first imported horse, it being a Norman by the name of Belgian, and the same year bought a Clydesdale. In 1882 he went to Europe and made an importation of fourteen head of Normans; the following year imported twenty, and in 1884 thirty-one, since then his agents doing the buying for him. He built his present barn in 1882, and has accommodations for about one hundred head of stock. He is a progressive and energetic business man and has met with marked success in his undertakings, having gained a handsome competence by his well-directed efforts.

Mr. Hodgson lost his first wife in 1876, and of the eight children born to them four daughters died in infancy. Those living are: William E., who served as deputy county treasurer for four years, and is now assistant cashier of the First National Bank, of El Paso; Lester E., a resident of Idaho; Eugene M., a druggist of Minonk, Illinois; and Charles W., a jeweler of Wallace, Idaho. Mr. Hodgson was again married, in 1881, his second union being with Miss Kate Gibson, a native of Woodford county, and a daughter of George L. Gibson, who at one time owned the largest part of the land on which El Paso is now located.

For twelve years Mr. Hodgson was president of the El Paso Fair Association, and has been one of its directors since its organization. He has entered stock at over thirty consecutive state fairs, and has carried off more premiums than any other one individual. One of his horses, Charton, took prizes at many state fairs, and also at the New Orleans Exposition. He was valued at four thousand dollars. Mr. Hodgson also owns road and coach horses as well as draft animals. He is a charter member of El Paso Camp, No. 168, M. W. A., and is a stanch supporter of the Republican party, with which he has affiliated since casting his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. He was a member of the county central committee ten years, and has been called upon to fill several local offices, having served as school director, path master, township supervisor, and alderman and a member of the school board of El Paso. In 1894 he was elected county treasurer, and most capably and satisfactorily filled that office four years, during which time the county seat was changed from Metamora to Eureka. He is pre-eminently public spirited and progressive, who keeps well abreast with the times, and is thoroughly identified with the interests of his adopted county. He is well known as an enterprising and reliable business man, as well as one of the leading citizens of El Paso.

BENJAMIN F. STREID.

Among the progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Worth township, Woodford county, is Benjamin F. Streid, who owns

and operates a valuable and well-improved farm of four hundred acres on section 24, only two miles and a quarter from Metamora. He is a native of Ohio, his birth occurring in Holmes county, that state, July 3, 1854. His father, Joseph Streid, was born in Strasburg, Germany, in 1829, of French ancestry, and there married Frances Fordenwad, a native of France. Joseph Streid spent his early life upon a farm, and for some time served as a soldier in the French army. Later he accepted a position on a mail ship and in that capacity visited all of the great cities and sea ports of the old world, remaining in the mail service for five years. In 1852 he came to America and first located in Holmes county, Ohio, where he engaged in farming until 1866, and then moved to McLean county, Illinois, settling on a farm near Chenoa, where he continued agricultural pursuits. He died there in 1886, his wife in 1884, and both were laid to rest in Chenoa cemetery.

At the age of twelve years Benjamin F Streid accompanied his parents on their removal to McLean county, Illinois, where he grew to manhood, his education being obtained in the country schools near his home. After attaining man's estate he worked on his father's farm for a few years, and in 1882 came to Woodford county, operating a rented farm in Worth township for three years. He then formed a partnership with Peter Schertz, and engaged in mercantile business at Metamora for ten years, as dealers in hardware, agricultural implements, harness and saddlery. To this the firm later added the grain business at Cazenovia and Low Point, and in all their undertakings were very successful. In 1895 Mr. Streid sold out and moved to his present farm of four hundred acres on section 24, Worth township, where he has built one of the best residences in the township, also two good barns and other outbuildings, making the place one of the best improved farms in the community. In connection with general farming he is also engaged in stock raising, making a specialty of pure-blooded short horn cattle and Chester White hogs, and in this he has also prospered.

In Woodford county Mr. Streid was married, February 20, 1876, to Miss Mary Schertz, who was born, reared and educated in Worth township, and they have become the parents of six children, namely: Josephine, Peter, Lizzie, Joseph and Julia, all graduates of the Metamora high school; and Freda, still in school. The Democratic party finds in Mr. Streid a stanch supporter of its principles, and for six or eight years he efficiently served as a member of the Metamora town board. Both he and his wife are members of the Mennonite church, and are highly respected and esteemed by all who know them.

HONORABLE JOSIAH KERRICK.

In order to give what now seems but recent facts concerning his own life, the Honorable Josiah Kerrick, now a resident of Minonk, Woodford county, Illinois, must trace back through the history of more than the last hundred years. His grandparents, Thomas and Sarah Kerrick,before and at the beginning of the year 1800, were citizens of the "Old Dominion," Virginia, and resided in the county of Loudoun. It was in the year 1824 that they left their native state, and

JOSIAH KERRICK.

MRS. JOSIAH KERRICK.

with their small family came to Muskingum county, Ohio, where after remaining but a short time they moved on into Franklin county, Indiana, then only a western wilderness; but here it was in such a wilderness that each of these brave, strong-hearted, hardy pioneers of the woods found the "narrow house," and "lay down to pleasant dreams."

Armisted Kerrick, the father of Josiah, was born in Loudoun county, Virginia, in 1819, and his mother, Sarah A. Kerrick, before her marriage Sarah A. Sloan, whose parents came from New Jersey, to Indiana, was born in Union county, Indiana, in 1823. They were married in Indiana, and continued to reside there until in the year 1856, when like his grandparents, his own parents felt it a duty to themselves and to their small family to go further west, and Low Point, Woodford county, Illinois, was selected as their first Illinois home. In 1863 they again moved, locating at Belle Plaine, Marshall county, Illinois. Here it was that they erected the home and developed the farm known by all who had seen the premises and visited there as the Kerrick home and the Kerrick farm. It was on account of the establishing and the developing of such homes and such farms that made possible the excellent communities with all their benefits and advantages spreading out from them far and wide, and for which benefits and blessings the present generation and those still to follow owe so great a debt of gratitude that they cannot hope ever to be able to pay the debt; but they can, and should, pay the highest tributes of praise and honor to those heroic souls, who endured the untold hardships and privations of pioneer frontier life and laid the foundations so broad and opened the gates so wide, for the enjoyment of the present and future development of the great state of Illinois, with all its unlimited resources. This was accomplished only by unceasing toil and daily sacrifice, given in great part as a "labor of love," the toilers themselves having received and enjoyed but little of the fruits of their labors.

The Rev. A. Kerrick, as Josiah's father was known throughout a large part of central Illinois, was one of the most successful farmers and stock raisers in Marshall and Woodford counties, and besides and together with his business capacity he was recognized as one of the strongest men of the Methodist Episcopal church, of which he was a most worthy and faithful member and an ordained local preacher, in which latter calling he became known as a strong and able speaker; his services as a minister of the gospel were in constant demand and always cheerfully and freely given. His political faith was firmly grounded and rooted in the doctrines and principles of the Republican party. In business, religion or in politics his life was one of the noblest, always governed by the highest ideals and purposes and was an incentive to every one who knew him, to live the life of an honest, upright Godfearing man. His life was a power for good in every place he was called to fill, and wherever its influence was felt.

Josiah's mother was one of the truest types of pioneer womanhood. Strong in hope, courageous, and never tiring in her efforts to assist her own family and all others in need of help, bravely enduring the burdens and freely making the many sacrifices of a true mother, common to the life of the earlier settlers of a new country. While she was not permitted to remain long in her last

earthly home, it was long enough for her to secure and hold the admiration and the love of all who knew and associated with her in the varied relations and experiences of life. As a faithful, earnest member of the same church of her husband, she had the abiding faith and hope of the true Christian woman, and not alone her children, but the entire community in which she lived, and wherever she was known "rise up and call her blessed." She died March 19, 1870, twenty-three years preceding the death of her husband, whose death occurred August 7, 1893, each mourned not only by friends and kindred but by the entire community in which they had lived and labored.

It is to one of the large families of the earlier times that Josiah Kerrick belongs, an honor that can be claimed by but few of the present generation, for large families in these times are not numerous. Eleven children were born to Armisted and Sarah A. Kerrick, which in succession in birth were, Joanna; Mary, now deceased, having died at Bloomington, Illinois, in 1898, at the age of fifty-four years; Jacob W., who died in 1853, at the age of four years; Josiah, Stephen, who died at Low Point, Illinois, in 1857, at the age of ten years; homas, Harrison, James, William H., Benjamin B., and Phebe. Armisted Kerrick married for his second wife, Mrs. Jane (Burley) Sowers, who at the time of the marriage had one child, Minnie R. Sowers, and by the second marriage there were born three children, John B., Orpha, who died at Belle Plaine, Illinois, at the age of six years, and Dick L.

Besides the widow, Mrs. Jane Kerrick, who is now a resident of Fairfield, Iowa, with whom her daughter, Minnie Sowers, is living, there are ten children of the family still living; Johanna Rogers, widow of the late Alma Rogers, is now residing in Dixon, Illinois; Josiah is a resident of Minonk, Illinois; Thomas is and has been a resident of Kansas, for many years at Greenwich, Kansas; Harrison lives at Lone Tree, Missouri; James, at Minonk, Illinois; William H., at Bloomington, Illinois; Benjamin B. is now living in Texas at Claude, as is Phebe, who was married to Dr. W. A. Warner, and now residing at Claude, Texas. John B. and Dick L. are both living in Fairfield, Iowa. All are married except Benjamin B. and Dick L.

Josiah Kerrick was born in Franklin county, Indiana, July 20, 1848, and came with his parents from Indiana to Illinois when but a small boy; his youth and young manhood were passed in Woodford and Marshall counties, on the farm. During the winter months, as was the usual custom for farmer boys, he attended the public schools, and later he went to Bloomington, Illinois, to attend school at the Wesleyan University. His attendance at the university was at a period when "batching" was not at all improper, but rather, at least for those who had to do it or not go to school at all, was considered quite the proper thing. For some time while at the university his fellow students who "batched it" with him were his cousins L. H. and T. C. Kerrick, Hon. Joseph W. Fifer, and Isaac N. Phillipps, all now residents of Bloomington, and R. M. Johns, now residing at Pontiac, Illinois. After quitting his studies and school work, farming engaged his attention for four years, but since 1874 he has resided in Minonk, of which city during all the time of his residence there he has been one of the most active citizens in all matters of public interest to his home city and county. For eighteen consecutive years he was a member

of the Minonk board of education, and served two terms as mayor of the city. It was during his term of office as mayor that the excellent system of water works and the water works plant were constructed.

Mr. Kerrick has always been a stanch Republican and a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party, and an ardent advocate of the principles of that party. For a number of years he served on the board of supervisors of Minonk township, and acted in the capacity of chairman of the board. In 1898 he was nominated by the Republicans, and elected a member of the Illinois legislature from the 20th senatorial district, and was again nominated to succeed himself in 1900. Mr. Kerrick is now a member of the firm of Kerrick & Humphrey, owners and operators of the only flour and feed mill in Minonk, and is also the principal owner of the Minonk Electric Light & Power Company, of which company he is the treasurer and general manager. In all positions which he has been called to fill the people have found him to be a useful and able man in matters that pertain to the welfare of the public, and one in whom as a business man and public official, having placed their confidence, they have not found it was misplaced or betrayed.

In fraternal matters he is a member of the I. O. O. F., in high standing, and has filled all the chairs of the local lodge. In the order of Knights of Pythias the honors of past chancellor are due him; the Knights of the Maccabees claim him as one of their members, and at this time he is the president of the Fraternal Mutual Life Reserve Association.

On the 10th day of March, 1870, Mr. Kerrick was married to Margaret E. Hollenback, the eldest child, and daughter of Jacob and Margaret Hollenback, of Washburn, Illinois. They have four children, one son and three daughters; the son, Harrison S. Kerrick, is now captain of Company F, Thirtieth Regiment United States Volunteer Infantry, now serving in the Phillippine Islands. He was one of the brave soldier boys who enlisted in the ranks during the Spanish-American war, and by meritorious service soon received promotion to the position of second lieutenant of Company D, Second Illinois Volunteer Infantry. On July 25th he was commissioned by President McKinley as one of the captains of the Thirtieth United States Volunteer Regiment, with which regiment he has now been serving in the Philippines since October, 1899, having sailed from San Francisco September 23, 1899. The three daughters, Eva L., Florence E. and Elsie E., reside at home.

EDWARD BURROUGHS.

Ranking foremost among the enterprising young men of Panola township is the subject of this biography, who owns and operates one hundred and sixty acres of Woodford county's most productive soil, which he keeps under an excellent state of cultivation. He is well known throughout a large section of the state as one of the most successful fine stock breeders of Illinois. Although he is a young man and has been in business but a few years the excellency of the fine herd of Poland China hogs found on his place attests his success as a fine stock

breeder. He usually keeps on hand about two hundred head, the value of some being as high as one thousand dollars per head, which is the best evidence of the high standard of his stock.

Mr. Burroughs is a native of Illinois, born in Washington, Tazewell county, August 19, 1873, and is a son of William and Elizabeth (Pinkham) Burroughs, natives of Kentucky and Illinois, respectively. When four years old he was brought to Woodford county by his parents, who located in Panola township, on the farm where they still reside. They are among the most prominent and highly respected citizens of the community.

Edward Burroughs was educated in the public schools of Woodford county, and the University of Illinois, where he was graduated in the class of 1895. Immediately after leaving school he turned his attention to farming and stock breeding on his present place. He was united in marriage December 24, 1895, with Miss Bessie Mayne, an accomplished and estimable young lady of El Paso, Illinois, and by this union have been born two children: Eleanor Estes and George Earl.

Fraternally Mr. Burroughs is a member of the Masonic order, and politically is an uncompromising Democrat, being recognized as one of the active and influential workers for the cause of his party.

William S. Burroughs, the father of our subject, is a prosperous farmer of Panola township, Woodford county. He was born in Christian county, Kentucky, June 27, 1846, and is the son of William Cook and Martha (Bondurant) Burroughs, the former being born near the Potomac river, in Virginia, in 1796, of English extraction, and the latter, a native of Kentucky, and of French descent. William Cook Burroughs was a son of Traverse Burroughs, who served as a commissioned officer under General Washington during the Revolutionary war. In his native state William C. Burroughs was a planter and slave owner, but in 1860 he moved to Washington, Tazewell county, Illinois, where he followed farming the remainder of his life and died in 1879. His wife died in Washington, Illinois, in 1866. They reared a family of five children, of whom Elizabeth married James Strickland, of El Paso, Illinois; Traverse died at the age of five years; John resides near Peoria, Illinois; Frances, deceased, married William Brown, of Cloverdale, Illinois; and William S., the father of our subject.

William S. Burroughs settled near his present place in 1880, and has met with good success in his farming operations. He now owns one thousand acres of land in Panola and Palestine townships. He married Elizabeth Pinkham, of Peoria, Illinois, October 17, 1872, and they became the parents of nine children: Edward, our subject; George, a farmer in Panola township; Cora Belle, Omah Elizabeth and Clarence R., at home; Jerry F., deceased; Lulu and Lester, at home.

JOSEPH GETZ.

The well-known and efficient superintendent of the Woodford county poor farm, on section 28, Metamora township, was born in that township, on the 24th of October,

1871, and has held his present position for the past three years with credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. His father, Joseph Getz, Sr., was born in Bavaria, Germany, May 7, 1827, and died in Woodford county, Illinois, September 28, 1900. In his native country he learned the blacksmith's trade, which he made his life work. In 1854 he emigrated to America, and at once proceeded to Illinois, his destination being Woodford county. He opened a shop in Panola township, which he conducted for some time and then moved to Metamora, where he carried on business until his retirement from active labor. Here he married Maggie Wahl, who was also born and reared in Germany, and came to the United States with her father, Peter Wahl, who was for some years engaged in the shoe business in Metamora, but spent his last days in Peoria.

Our subject is the third in order of birth in a family of four children still living, the others being: Andrew, a resident of Oklahoma; Peter, of Kearney, Nebraska; and Frederick, of Metamora. Those of the family now deceased are: Kate, who died at the age of nine years; Rosa, who died at the age of three years; Eva, who died September 6, 1900, at the age of twenty-two years; and Henry and Frank, who died in infancy.

The early education of Joseph Getz, Jr., was obtained in common and select schools of Metamora. At the age of fourteen years he began life for himself as a farm hand, and has since devoted his time and energies to agricultural pursuits. In 1891 he commenced work for Mr. Meek, then superintendent of the poor farm, and remained in his employ, in various capacities, for seven years. He rose to the position of foreman and became thoroughly familiar with the management of the place and the care of the inmates. In December, 1897, he was appointed superintendent, and has since filled that responsible position in a most creditable and satisfactory manner.

In Chatsworth, Livingston county, Mr. Getz was married, October 5, 1897, to Miss Rosa Rocke, who was born in Woodford county, but was reared and educated in Livingston county. Her father, Henry Rocke, died in the latter county. Both Mr. and Mrs. Getz are members of the Catholic church, and he is also connected with the Modern Woodmen camp at Metamora. In his political affiliations he is a stanch Democrat, and as a public-spirited and progressive citizen he gives his support to every enterprise for the public good.

S. L. PETERSON.

In this enlightened age when men of energy, industry and merit are rapidly pushing their way to the front, those who, by their own individual efforts, have won favor and fortune may properly claim recognition. Mr. Peterson eminently deserves classification with the self-made men of Woodford county, who have distinguished themselves for their ability to master the opposing forces of life and to wrest from fate a large measure of success.

He was born in Salem county, New Jersey, in 1852, and is one of a family of eight children whose parents were Samuel and Jane Peterson, also natives of New Jersey. In 1856 the family left that state and moved to Indiana, but six months later came to Illinois, taking up their residence in Peoria

county, where the father was engaged in farming for over a year. They next made their home in Farmington, and in 1858 came to Woodford county, where the father engaged in stock raising in connection with farming.

During his boyhood our subject went to school but little, his time being devoted to farming and herding cattle. He often let his herd graze on the present site of Benson, it being at that time only prairie, and up to 1879 farmed within three miles of Benson. He then embarked in the grain business at his present office in Benson, and in 1883 bought out the lumber firm of Kipp & Gordon, taking as a partner George Sauer, but this connection was dissolved in 1886, and Mr. Peterson has since been alone in business. He has two large grain elevators with a capacity of one hundred thousand bushels, and in connection with his other business carries a large line of ready mixed paints. He has become an extensive stock dealer, and handles about half the hogs shipped from Benson, which is one of the largest hog shipping points in this section of the state. In June, 1900, he succeeded Mr. Zinger as president of the Benson State Bank, and now discharges the duties of that position in addition to his other business enterprises. He is one of the most energetic and progressive business men of the county, has the genius for devising and executing the right thing at the right time, which joined to every day common sense and guided by resistless will power, have brought to him remarkable success. Connected with the leading enterprises of the village the place he occupies in business circles is in the front rank.

Mr. Peterson was married, January 13, 1887, to Miss Emma F. Ray, daughter of Mrs. Susan Ray. They have one child, Ray, a bright boy of eleven years. Another son, Harold, died in 1895, at the age of two, dying but a few days after his grandmother Ray's death. The family have a beautiful home on Front street, which is the finest residence in the town.

Mr. Peterson has been called upon to fill several local positions of honor and trust, such as president of the town board of trustees, and school director for three years. He also served as postmaster during President Cleveland's last administration, and by his fellow citizens was considered the best postmaster that Benson has ever had. In all the relations of life he has been found true to any trust reposed in him, and is upright and honorable in all his dealings.

FRANK A. VAN ALSTINE.

This well-known telegraph operator for the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad at El Paso, is a native of Woodford county, born in Secor, Palestine township, March 27, 1870, and is a son of John E. and Mary E. (Hart) Van Alstine, the former a native of Beardstown, Illinois, the latter of Palestine township, Woodford county, and both representatives of pioneer families of this section of the state. Our subject's paternal grandfather, Cornelius Van Alstine, conducted a general store and served as the first postmaster at Secor, where his death occurred. He was twice married, and by one union had two sons, of whom John E. is the older. There are two daughters by another marriage: Mamie, wife of Josiah Demsey, a grocer of Belvidere, Illinois; and Bessie, wife of L. D. Carpenter, of Sen-

eca, Illinois. Allen Hart, our subject's maternal grandfather, came from New York and settled in Woodford county at a very early day in its development. He was also married twice, and by the first union had two daughters: Mary E., mother of our subject; and Mrs. Lucy Darst, of Bloomington, Illinois. The children by his second marriage are: Harvey, an attorney, of Bloomington; William, a real estate dealer of La Junta, Colorado; Sallie, a resident of New York city; Clara, wife of Judge Kennedy, of Minonk; John, a resident of Bloomington; Edson, a physician of that city; and Hester, a resident of New York city. They are all connected with the leading families of Woodford county.

John E. Van Alstine, father of our subject, came to the county with his parents in 1856, and was educated in the schools of Secor. On starting out in life for himself he engaged in farming and stock raising, and for thirty-five years has been one of the leading stock buyers and shippers in his locality. He makes his home in Greene township, where he owns a fine farm of one hundred and twenty-one acres, which he has placed under a high state of cultivation. Politically he was formerly a Democrat, but now supports the Republican party, and religiously both he and his estimable wife are earnest members of the Christian church. They are the parents of eleven children, of whom two died in infancy. The others are: Louis H., who married Ida Clay, and is engaged in farming in Greene township; Frank A., the subject of this sketch; Elmer J., who married Sylvia Arnold, and lives in Carlock, Illinois; Clara L., wife of William Van Scyoc, a farmer and stock raiser of Palestine township; Claura R., at home; Florence E., wife of Willis McCord, a drayman of Roanoke, Illinois; Lida O., Harvey B. and Nellie W., all at home. The children have received good common school educations.

Frank A. Van Alstine was reared on the home farm and attended the public schools of Palestine township until seventeen years of age, when he went to live with his uncle, R. M. Darst, a prosperous farmer of Normal township, McLean county, Illinois, with whom he remained two years, continuing his education at the same time. He then returned to his father's farm in Greene township, Woodford county, for a short time, and on again leaving the parental roof he commenced learning telegraphy in Secor. He worked as an extra operator for a short time, and was then given a permanent position at El Paso, being made night operator and ticket agent for the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad Company, July 21, 1893. That position he has since most satisfactorily filled. By his ballot Mr. Van Alstine supports the Republican party, and in the fall of 1900 received the nomination of his party for circuit clerk in Woodford county. Since 1895 he has been a member of the Christian church of El Paso, and takes an active interest in church and Sunday school work. Fraternally he is a Royal Arch Mason, a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Court of Honor and the Modern Woodmen of America, all of El Paso.

JOSEPH DEARTH.

This well-known and prominent agriculturist has lived in different parts of Olio township, Woodford county, since 1877, and in March, 1892, purchased the fine farm of

eighty acres on section 21, where he now resides. A native of Illinois, he was born in Danvers township, McLean county, in 1855, and is a son of Randolph and Elizabeth (Fuhrman Dearth), the former a native of Muskingum county, Ohio, the latter of Pennsylvania. They were among the early pioneers of McLean county, making their home in Danvers township, where the father purchased a tract of wild land, which he improved and placed under excellent cultivation. Upon that farm he continued to make his home throughout life, and was one of the honored and highly respected men of his community. In his political views he was a Democrat. He died March 11, 1898, but his wife is still living, and continues to make her home in Danvers. The following children were born to them: Mrs. Hannah Spickman, a resident of Bloomington; Mrs. Rosina Stuller; Joseph; Martin, of Fort Scott, Kansas; Rankin, of Blomington; Ed, who lives on the old homestead in Danvers township; Perry, who makes his home near Clarksville, Iowa; and August, of Bloomington, Illinois.

Joseph Dearth was reared on the home farm, and acquired his education in the public schools of Danvers. Since starting out in life for himself he has always engaged in farming, and has met with fair success in his life work. On the 20th of February, 1888, in Danvers, he married Miss Carrie Ellis, a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of Thomas Ellis, one of the early settlers of Cruger township, Woodford county. By this union were born two children, namely: Mable and Bessie.

Politically Mr. Dearth is a supporter of the Democratic party, and takes an active interest in politics. He is a worthy representative of one of the honored and highly respected families of McLean county, and is a man of exemplary habits, having never drank, swore, used tobacco or played cards. In this respect he has followed in the footsteps of his father, who never had any of these faults.

J. D. JENKINS.

This well-known jeweler and prominent business man of El Paso, was born in that place, May 20, 1861, and is a worthy representative of an old and honored family, whose ancestry can be traced back about nine hundred years. In 1690 four brothers of the Jenkins family left their old home in Wales and started for America, but one died on the voyage across the Atlantic. Of those who landed safely in this country David Jenkins, the great-great-great-grandfather of our subject, took out his land patent under the William Penn charter, securing a tract of land in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, which is now owned by William McCay, whose mother was a sister of our subject's father. This property has never passed out of the family. The great-grandfather, who also bore the name of David Jenkins, spent his entire life in Lancaster county. He was one of the first to engage in the smelting of iron ore in Pennsylvania and the product of pig iron. His foundry was probably located near Bethlehem. He made the first iron stove known to have been manufactured in the United States, and was also engaged in the molding of shells and solid shot for the Continental army during the Revolutionary war.

David Jenkins, our subject's grandfather, was also a life-long resident of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, though he once visited

his children in Illinois. He was born in 1775, and died in 1847, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah McCammet, was born in 1777 and died in 1848.

Robert Jenkins, our subject's father, was born in Churchtown, Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, June 23, 1812, and in early life learned the carpenter's trade. He first came west in 1835, but soon returned to his native state, and did not locate permanently in Illinois until 1840, when he was accompanied by his two brothers, Isaac and William. They settled in Kickapoo township, Peoria county, where the brothers operated a saw-mill and grist-mill for several years, but in 1856 came to Woodford county. For his brothers Robert erected a store building at the corner of what is now Front and Main streets, in El Paso, it being the second frame structure built at that place. He framed it in Peoria, and the timbers were the first shipment made over the Peoria & Oquawka Railroad, now the Toledo, Peoria & Warsaw Railroad. He engaged in contracting and building at El Paso until 1864, when he returned to Peoria county. During all this time he spent the winter in Natchez, Mississippi, superintending the erection of buildings for a relative of his who was extensively engaged in the cotton and sugar business at that place. In 1868 Robert Jenkins removed to Wyanet, Bureau county, Illinois, where he remained until the fall of 1869, and then went to Ladora, Iowa. In 1870 he moved to Viola, Mercer county, Illinois, and in the spring of the following year returned to El Paso, but in 1882 he again went to Wyanet, where he died June 6, 1883. At Peoria he was married, in 1854, to Miss Malinda Kindred, of that place, who died August 4, 1870. The first of the Kindred family to come to America were two brothers, weavers by trade, who came from London, England, in 1583. Mrs. Jenkins' grandfather, Thomas Kindred, Sr., was a Kentuckian by birth, but spent some time in Virginia, and then returned to Kentucky. He was a soldier of the Revolutionary war, and the gun that he carried in the service is now in possession of our subject. It was also used by Mrs. Jenkins' father, Thomas Kindred, Jr., in the war of 1812. He fought with General Jackson in the battle of New Orleans, and was a man of exceptional courage. He was born in Virginia, and prior to the Civil war was a wealthy distiller and planter in Virginia, but during the struggle lost his property. He then came to Peoria, Illinois, and spent his last days in Pontiac, where he died in 1873, at the extreme old age of one hundred and three years.

After coming to El Paso, in 1856, Isaac and William Jenkins conducted a store for many years, but finally sold out. Later William bought it again and carried on business alone until 1874. He served as the first postmaster of the place, receiving his appointment from President Buchanan in 1857. He remained a resident of El Paso until 1884, when he moved to San Bernardino, California, where he is now living a retired life. He was a civil engineer and held the office of city engineer of El Paso for some time. He also served as alderman and as mayor two terms, and as a Democrat he took an active part in county politics. When Isaac Jenkins retired from mercantile business he moved to a farm about one mile east of El Paso, where he spent the remainder of his life in agricultural pursuits, dying there in 1880. He was also a stanch Democrat. His widow is still a resident of El Paso township.

J. D. Jenkins, of this review, is the fourth

in order of birth in a family of seven children, the others being Mary, wife of E. P. Sellers, of Creston, Iowa; William, of Wyanet, Bureau county, Illinois; John, of Cherokee, Iowa; Kate, wife of William Bailey, of the same place; Anderson, also of Cherokee, Iowa; and James, a jeweler of Peoria, Illinois.

J. D. Jenkins is practically self-educated, as he attended school but two years. He commenced life as an apprentice to the printer's trade in the office of the "El Paso Journal," when about twelve years old, and followed that occupation from 1873 to 1879. He worked at the trade in Chillicothe for a while, and has often assisted in the work of his home paper. He set up and printed the first fair daily special of the "Journal." In the fall of 1879 he commenced learning the jeweler's trade at El Paso, and has since devoted his attention to that business, working as a journeyman in Streator for a time in 1884, in Minonk for about a year, and Janesville, Wisconsin, six months. In 1887 he returned to Minonk for a short time, and then opened a store of his own in El Paso, where today he is the leading jeweler.

On the 12th of October, 1886, Mr. Jenkins married Miss Duckie Ross, a descendant of General Ross of Revolutionary fame, whose sword is now in possession of our subject. Her parents were James and Kate (Burger) Ross. The mother is now deceased, but the father is still living and makes his home in El Paso. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins have four children: Edith, Adelina, Grover C. and Julius D. Socially Mr. Jenkins is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America and the Court of Honor. He is one of the prominent Democrats of El Paso, and has been a member of the county central committee since 1894, being elected chairman of the same in 1900.

Mr. Jenkins has the finest collection of antique curios in this section of the state, including an extensive collection of valuable old coins, watches, firearms, two thousand geological specimens, and over six thousand Indian relics, including a rock crystal arrow for which he has been offered fifty dollars. He has a finely-carved ivory jewel box once owned by Lord Byron, and a knife which was once the property of Colonel Bowie, and many other relics of great interest and value.

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